

New protest policy reflects yearslong collaborative effort

By NORA PEACHIN
News Editor

President Laurie Patton announced the college's new Policy on Open Expression in an all-school email on Nov. 21. The policy, she wrote, was changed in conjunction with an updated version of the policy on demonstration regulations. Together, the policies constitute the college's rules about student protest.

The newest version of both policies, which are part of the 2019–2020 Student Handbook in sections A.5 and C.4, make clearer distinctions between “disruptive action” and “substantially disruptive action.” The Policy on Open Expression also more explicitly acknowledges the educational value of protests, and states that the college “recognizes the historical importance of nonviolent public demonstration and protest.”

These changes, among many others, were made following a two-and-a-half year process of reflection on the college's protest policy after the protest against Charles Murray in 2017. Following that incident, the college convened a Committee on Speech and Inclusion, made up of students, faculty and staff, which made some general recommendations about hosting controversial speakers. The SGA also contributed suggestions in the form of a bill that May.

“Though I am optimistic about this new policy, I remain concerned about a campus environment that is, in my opinion, hostile to student protest.”

Grace Vedock '20

The college has since seen two drafts of a new policy — the first which was shared on Nov. 15, 2018, and the second on May 19, 2019. The 2018 draft, which was crafted using feedback from two open meetings held that fall, defined “civil disobedience” as a punishable violation of college policy, among other additions. It was widely criticized for ambiguities in its language.

The 2019 draft more closely reflected the finalized updated policy. That policy was created by a Policy Working Group of students, faculty and staff. According to Michael Sheridan, group member and professor of anthropology and African Studies, the group looked to other college's policies for reference.

“I was deeply concerned about the [2018] policy's retributive impulses, which is why I was one of a handful of students who voiced concern and led a teach-in to engage students in the process of proposing a more holistic protest and demonstrations policy,” said Grace Vedock '20, a member of the Policy Working Group and student activist.

Members of that group told The Campus they are generally pleased with the new finalized policy, and feel it reflected their recommendations.

“[We] worked for two years on this issue and developed two statements that have both been adopted,” said Amy Briggs, a group member and professor of computer science, referring to both the statement on

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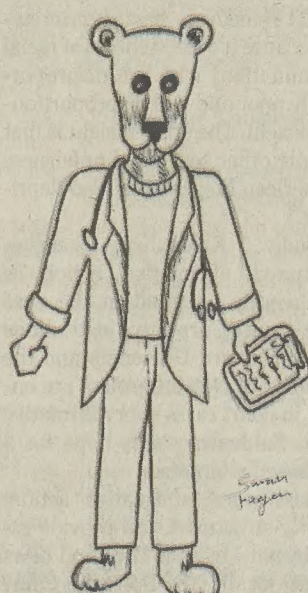
College offers employees new health insurance option

By ABIGAIL CHANG
Contributing Writer

The college is offering a new health insurance plan option to employees that will take effect on January 1, 2020.

Employees had the chance to either enroll in this new option or stick with their old insurance plans during a two-week insurance enrollment period earlier this month. A total of 113 Middlebury and Monterey employees enrolled in the new plan.

The new plan — called the Panther Plan — is a high deductible health plan (HDHP), which means the plan costs

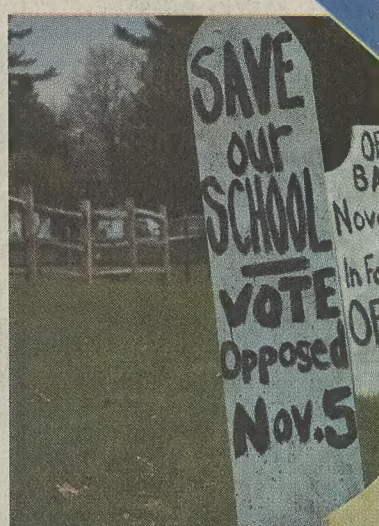


less per month but has higher deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums. It also includes a health savings account (HSA), an untaxed pool of money to which the enrollee and school contribute that can be used to cover eligible health expenses. This sets it apart from the existing option, which the informational materials distributed to employees refer to as a preferred provider organization (PPO) plan. The PPO plan has a lower deductible and a higher monthly premium and does not include a health savings account.

Lower upfront costs, higher deductibles

The Panther Plan offers enrollees an in-network deductible of \$2,000, nearly seven times the equivalent deductible for the PPO plan. A deductible is a set amount of money an enrollee must spend on their health expenses before their health insurance starts covering a percentage of those expenses. This means that individuals enrolled in the new plan would have to pay for up to \$2,000 of their non-preventative medical care before the in-

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BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Voters in the northwest Addison County town of Ferrisburgh advocated against closing the town's elementary school, which has experienced a decline in students from 210 in the 2003–2004 school year to 157 in the 2018–2019 school year. As part of an election in November, voters rejected the Addison Northwest School District's suggestion to voluntarily close the school, with 884 opposed and 160 in favor.

Keep an eye out for more coverage on school consolidation online and in future issues of The Campus.

The state of the union

Structural change and new initiatives top SGA agenda

By PORTER BOWMAN
SGA Correspondent

The Student Government Association (SGA) has been working throughout the semester on projects and initiatives with the goal — as always — of helping the student body. As the semester comes to a close, here is an update on some of the recent activity of the SGA Student Senate and Cabinet:

SGA structure

The senate has engaged in ongoing discussions about the future structure and function of the SGA. The conversations were sparked both by the impending dissolution of the commons system, as well as by a reform-minded SGA administration led by president Varsha Vijayakumar '20, who hopes to increase the visibility, legitimacy and impact of the body.

At the Nov. 24 meeting, Vijayakumar stated her support for eliminating the commons senator positions, as well as for removing the voting power of the Community Council co-chair in the senate. This would shift the number of voting members from 17 down to 11.

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Community Council: A semester in review

By TONY SJODIN
Community Council Correspondent

This semester, the Community Council has discussed several issues concerning Middlebury's future, including the addition of security cameras on campus, the implementation of the How Will We Live Together report, recurring problems with unreturned dining hall dishes and an upcoming review of the college's social houses.

Staff members from several departments have attended meetings to present their work to the Community Council and answer questions posed by council members.

Public safety spoke about updating the ID card access systems on buildings across campus and installing security cameras, beginning this winter, in areas that experience heavy foot traffic from members of the college and from visitors.

Staff from the recently-expanded Health and Wellness Department presented on their work on Tobacco 21 and the college's policies related to tobacco use reduction. They also spoke about methods for promoting health and wellness among students, as well as the department's goals of providing more



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS



Werner's Tree Farm in Middlebury prepares for the holiday season with wreaths, garlands and cut-your-own trees. The family-owned farm maintains several fields of trees up in the Mountains of Lincoln, Vt., which are generally grown to their eight-foot height in 10–16 years.

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RACE OR CLASS?

Scholars debate affirmative action policy

By RACHEL LU
Contributing Writer

Middlebury welcomed two scholars to debate whether affirmative action in higher education should be class-based or race-based on Wednesday, Nov. 20. The event, which nearly filled Dana Auditorium, was co-sponsored by the Middlebury Independent, the Alexander Hamilton Forum and the Political Science Department. The debate was moderated by Joey Lyons '21, the founder and editor-in-chief of the Independent.

At the event, Randall Kennedy, a professor at the Harvard Law School, argued in favor of race-based affirmative action. Kennedy is the author of seven books, most notably "For Affirmative Action: Race, Affirmative Action and the Law."

Richard Kahlenberg, the director of K-12 equity and a senior fellow at the Century Foundation, spoke in favor of class-based affirmative action. Kahlenberg has written extensively on affirmative action, having authored six books, including "The Remedy: Class, Race, Affirmative Action."

Kennedy took the podium first at the event to deliver his stance on race-based affirmative action.

"I champion such policies because, on balance, they are conducive to the public good," he said.

Kennedy said during the debate that race-based affirmative action can be used as a form of distributive justice to integrate people from marginalized communities into educational and political spaces where they have historically had little access. This helps facilitate reparative justice, a philosophy by which systems are able to right historical wrongs and benefit people who have and continue to be disadvantaged and oppressed.



COURTESY PHOTO

Demonstrators outside of a Boston courthouse where the Harvard affirmative action case was heard in Oct. 2018. Guest speakers at the Nov. 20 debate at Middlebury discussed the merits and drawbacks of class and race based affirmative action policies.

Kennedy added that race-based affirmative action also provides insurance against ongoing racial discrimination.

"We know there is an invisible wind of racism in American society," Kennedy said. "It's a wind but you can't catch it through litigation. Affirmative action gives preference to those who are marching forward in the face of that stiff, racist wind."

The most popular argument in favor of race-based affirmative action, according to Kennedy, is that it promotes diversity in higher education. By ensuring a racially heterogeneous atmosphere, college campuses create a space for good conversations across a wide range of views.

Kennedy also reflected on his experiences as a black man who frequently speaks about race-based affirmative action at public events. He said he is often asked to speak on the issue among many others who disagree with him.

"Over the years I have been to many forums that are actually very

hostile to affirmative action, yet they sought me out," he said. "I think my blackness was part of the reason they sought me out, is that if they had a debate about affirmative action and not have a black person involved at all, it would be weird, it would be viewed as illegitimate, no one would pay much attention."

"The trend of legitimization is part of the affirmative action conversation," he added.

Kennedy also emphasized that he is in favor of all varieties of affirmative action, ranging from race to gender to class, because the policy is one of inclusivity and mutual support.

"Affirmative action, just like any other policy, has weaknesses and it has costs. There is no social policy that is costless," Kennedy said. "You can have affirmative action policies that are badly designed, you can have stupid affirmative action. On balance, well designed affirmative action has served the nation well."

Next, Kahlenberg took the podium and began by stating the similari-

ties he shares with Kennedy — namely that they both support racial and class diversity on campus. However, he differed on the means by which to achieve equality on campuses.

Kahlenberg made what he called a moral argument in favor of class-based affirmative action in higher education.

"Colleges have racial diversity but no income diversity," he said. "Multi-racial aristocracy is still aristocracy."

Kahlenberg traced his argument back to Martin Luther King Jr., who himself struggled with endorsing affirmative action. In King's book "Why We Can't Wait," King wrote that ending discrimination is not enough, but the nation is in need of a proactive remedy. King wanted to alleviate discrimination for disadvantaged people of all races, and said this indirect remedy would also disproportionately benefit the racially overlooked.

"Two insights here," Kahlenberg said. "One is that a class-based affirmative action would provide an indirect remedy to past discrimination because it's the victims [of racial discrimination] who are disproportionately poor and will disproportionately benefit. The other insight is that there are other sources of unfairness in American life; there is also deprivation."

Legally, Kahlenberg believes class-based affirmative action is more readily accepted in the eyes of the court. Currently, institutions such as Harvard University and the University of North Carolina are engaged in court cases over affirmative action. Kahlenberg sees hope for a class-based alternative.

"Class-based affirmative action, properly structured, can provide racial diversity as well. The good news [is that] legally, the Supreme Court treats race and class differently," Kahlenberg said. "A supreme court that is striking down the use of race that favors students of color is very

unlikely to strike down a policy that gives preference to low income students."

Politically, class-based affirmative action can also band together a larger coalition of supporters, according to Kahlenberg. 61% of people think it's appropriate to conduct class-based affirmative action, compared to 37% of people who support the policy through race, according to a handout that Kahlenberg distributed during his talk.

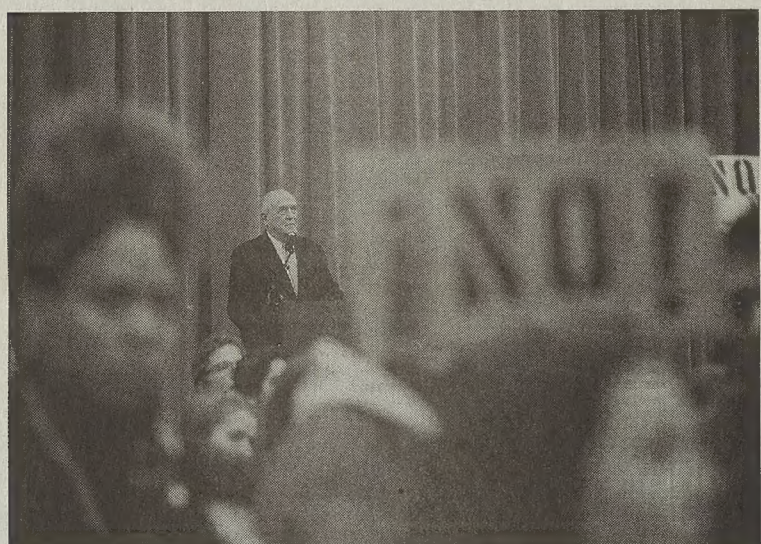
"Whereas race-based affirmative action divides the progressive coalition, class based affirmative action reminds the working class of different races what they have in common," he said.

In his rebuttal to Kahlenberg, Kennedy argued that despite affirmative action being a relatively niche political issue, the uproar it elicits demonstrates the insecurities and permanence of white privilege today.

Kahlenberg responded by saying that the specific difficulties of achieving socio-economic diversity make class-based affirmative action the sole solution. While race is readily visible, class differences are more discreet, and institutions are more willing to disregard class because financial aid is expensive. Only when race-based affirmative action is eliminated, Kahlenberg argued, will higher education place an emphasis on socio-economic diversity.

According to Lyons, this topic is especially salient to Middlebury because he believes the college can benefit from increased racial and economic diversity. Lyons was pleased by the debate between the speakers.

"The Middlebury community benefits when we can debate in good faith," Lyons said. "Two people with opposing views provided convincing arguments for their positions. Every student I talked to said they learned a lot from this competition of ideas."



MICHAEL O'HARA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Students protested Charles Murray in March 2017. The college has revised its policy on open expression partially in response to this event.

New protest policy incorporates student and faculty critiques

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Academic Freedom, Integrity and Respect that faculty crafted in spring 2018, as well as the May 2019 policy draft. The 2018 statement "now appears as a preamble to the institution-wide policies in the Handbook," Briggs said.

The new policy is "clearly built around the key components of the framework created by the policy committee and voted on by the faculty at the end of the spring semester," said Renee Wells, a group member and the director of education for equity and inclusion.

"I'm very happy that the new policy clarifies how our community should interact when faced with controversy," Sheridan said. "We will be a stronger community, and this policy will, I hope, be the foundation for building more trust on our campus."

Sheridan highlighted what he sees as important aspects of the new policy, including the clarification that open expression affirms the aforementioned three pillars from the faculty statement, as well as the expansion to allow all members of the campus community to "engage in personal activity involving protest and demonstration to express one's own ideas." The 2018 draft said that members of the Senior Leadership Group could determine that some staff positions were "incompatible" with participation in certain manifestations of expression at the college; now, staff are also free to protest under policy guidelines without fear of getting fired, according to Sheridan.

"This expansion of the pillars to include staff will, I hope, enhance re-

spectful relationships in our community," Sheridan said.

Despite mostly positive feedback, Vedock emphasized the importance of continued actions to improve the campus environment around protest.

"Though I am optimistic about this new policy, I remain concerned about a campus environment that is, in my opinion, hostile to student protest," Vedock said, explaining that she and fellow Policy Working Group member Taite Shomo experienced hostility last spring as they were planning a protest of the planned talk of right-wing Polish politician Ryszard Legutko who was planned to speak on campus.

"I hope that this policy is quickly followed by concrete and continued action that affirms these rights," Vedock said.

According to Hannah Ross, the college's general counsel and chief of staff, the administration intends the new policy to reflect the college's "equal commitments to open expression and an inclusive community." Ross reaffirmed the college's "conviction that all community members can participate equally and all voices can be heard."

In an all-school email on Nov. 1, President Patton described the college's struggles over questions of speech and inclusivity as "a work in progress." In addition to updating its policies, the college has also been working to strengthen relationships and planning practices with local law enforcement partners, and has developed workshops for students on college protest policy, amongst other projects.

College offers employees additional health insurance option with Panther Plan

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insurance plan would cover a portion of the remaining expenses.

For in-network preventative care like immunizations, on the other hand, insurers pay the entirety of costs regardless of the deductible because of a federal regulation under the Affordable Care Act. This provision did not change from the old plan to the new one.

The new plan also has much higher out-of-pocket maximums than the old plan. An out-of-pocket maximum is the total amount enrollees can cumulatively spend on all their health expenses within the year before insurers pay for 100% of the remaining covered expenses. The higher out-of-pocket maximums for the Panther Plan mean that enrollees will need to pay more of their medical expenses in a given year before the maximums kick in and they are insured for the rest of the year.

Cheryl Mullins, the college's director of human resources, explained that the school added the Panther Plan in an effort to provide interested employees with more health insurance options.

"From the employer's perspective, such plans are a little less expensive and tend to have lower increases over time," she said. "We think the plan is a win-win for the college and certain employee demographics."

The college also introduced the new Panther Plan in part because of the potential benefits of a health savings account.

"HDHPs with HSAs are really attractive to various employee subsets, in particular because of the triple tax savings available under the HSA," Mullins said.

The school intends to contribute \$1,000 to individual and \$2,000 to family HSAs under the Panther Plan. For this past November enrollment cycle only, the school will incentivize employees to choose the new plan by contributing an additional \$400 to individual HSAs and \$600 to HSAs for employees covering themselves and one or more dependents. This sum, and any money enrolled employees choose to put into their accounts, is not taxed when it is deposited or withdrawn, and can be used to pay certain medical expenses tax-free.

"The new plan is certainly not for everyone, but for those individuals who are looking to maximize tax qualified savings it's a great option," Mullins said. "The plan is also great for employees who are relatively low utilizers of the health plan as they have the opportunity to amass a nice nest egg that can be used for medical expenses in the future, as needed."

Overall cost remains a concern

However, other school employees expressed concern that the risks of a plan with a higher deductible might not be worth the lower premiums and potential tax benefits. Katie Gillespie, associate director for research compliance and member of the compensations and benefits committee of the staff council, decided to re-enroll in the school's old PPO plan.

"I can see how the HDHP with HSA may provide cost savings for some, but it's also kind of a gamble," Gillespie said. "Of course we all hope to be healthy in the coming year, but if you end up having unforeseen medical expenses, you might end up paying more in the end."

Gillespie also mentioned that a few people she had spoken to were worried the school might eventually take away the PPO plan option.

"While we don't currently have an indication that will happen, changes in the name of cost savings can always put people a little on edge," she said.

Randall Ganiban, a professor of classics, also opted to stick with the PPO plan. He explained that it appeared to him the new plan benefitted younger, single employees rather than families. He agreed with Gillespie that the PPO plan seemed worth the higher monthly premiums for many of the employees he spoke to.

"It seemed that most people I spoke to preferred the PPO plan," Ganiban said. "Its coverage seemed to be broader and, even though the cost was a little bit higher, it seemed to offer more benefits in the long run."

The school incentivized enrollment in the Panther Plan by making premiums, the charge for enrollment in a health insurance plan that participants incur every two weeks, more sensitive of employees' different incomes. Panther Plan premiums, which are already lower than that of the PPO plan, will be based on a percent-of-income approach, while the PPO plan will continue using the tiered premium system the school has employed in the past. The tiered system places employees into groups based on \$10,000 salary increments, and those in the same coverage category — for example, all those enrolled as families — have the same premium. This means that an employee making \$20,000 and an employee making \$29,000 pay the same premium, as long as they are both in the same coverage category.

As Mullins explained in a September email to her colleagues, this system is not always as sensitive as it needs to be.

"It does not respond automatically to pay variations — up or down," she wrote. "And due to its tier basis, a small change in pay, from, say \$39,000 to \$40,000, will tip an employee into a new tier, which can result in a sizeable increase in employee contributions, rather than a small incremental change."

The switch to a percent-of-income approach for the Panther Plan would therefore be a factor in deciding which plan to enroll in, as the new plan offers a mechanism for determining employee premium contribution more tailored to their specific income.

An employee's decision to choose one plan or the other is also impacted by their tax bracket, given the potential tax benefits of the HSA, and the size of their household.

There are several other major differences between the two plans, including how they handle in- and out-of-network expenses, preventive and non-preventive care and copays.

For the PPO plan, the out-of-pocket maximums are the same for providers in- and out-of-network. However, the Panther Plan's out-of-network maximums are double that of their in-network maximums, which would make seeing an out-of-network provider significantly more expensive. The two plans the school offers are through Cigna, a multinational health service corporation based in the U.S. and operating in more than 30 countries, according to the company's website. In order to avoid the higher maximums for out-of-network care, Panther Plan enrollees would need to find health care providers exclusively within Cigna's national network.

The old PPO plan pays for at least 80% of non-preventative costs both in- and out-of-network, and some types of covered care do not require that enrollees meet their deductible before insurance pays for them. The Panther Plan also pays for 80% of non-preventative in-network costs, but only 70% of both preventive and non-preventive out-of-network costs, and those enrolled must have met their deductible before receiving this coverage. Non-preventative medical procedures can include a large variety of care, with anything from allergy treatment and acupuncture to emergency care and organ transplants.

The old plan also has fixed copay amounts, with a \$10 copay for generic brand drugs, \$25 for preferred brand, and \$40 for non-preferred brand. Panther Plan copays are a percentage of the cost of the drugs, with 10%, 30%, and 40% copays for generic, preferred brand and non-preferred brand respectively. This means that enrollees in the Panther Plan have to pay more in copays than enrollees in the PPO plan if the medication they are purchasing costs more than \$100, but less if it is less than \$100.

The Panther Plan provides school employees with lower premiums than the PPO plan and potential tax savings. During a healthy year, an enrollee might save on health insurance expenses and benefit from the health savings account, but during an unhealthy year, the higher deductible and out-of-pocket maximum could mean a greater financial burden.

SGA and Community Council close up shop for the fall

SGA proposes longer Thanksgiving break, votes down vegetarian Atwater and considers adjustments to PE credits

Continued from Page 1

While nothing has been formally decided at this point, these discussions on the future of the SGA have taken place in their weekly meetings, as well as behind the scenes, as members hope to pass a series of structural changes in the coming weeks and months. If such changes were approved, the senate would then have to approve changes to the SGA's constitution.

Vegetarian Atwater

At the same meeting, the senate voted down a proposed referendum which would have made Atwater Dining Hall fully vegetarian for the upcoming Winter Term. If passed, the referendum would have been put on a special ballot and sent out to the student body before the end of the current semester — instead it was rejected in a 15–2 vote.

Many senators found several issues with the plan, and raised concerns on behalf of constituents who felt that dining halls should serve fewer meat entrees at each meal, rather than make an entire dining hall meatless. Additionally, many senators felt that a meatless Atwater would increase traffic at Proctor and Ross dining halls, especially after recent commentary from Atwater chefs about the low attendance on its Meatless Mondays.

Senators expressed a desire to find other options to meet the Environmental Affairs Committee's goal of 30% meat reduction in college dining halls.

Ethical investing

In the wake of the divestment movement and Energy2028, the senate passed a resolution to support ethical investing of Middlebury's endowment toward companies and industries that fit within the college's values. Elisa Gan '20, the newly appointed Student Liaison to the SGA on Endowment Affairs, is planning a series of forums with several members of the college administration to help students better understand how the endowment is invested and how that will change over the next several years.

Thanksgiving break

First-Year Senator Miguel Sanchez '23 has taken the lead on a bill that would make Thanksgiving break a full week, rather than just a five-day weekend. Sanchez has worked with Dean of Faculty Sujata Moorti to find ways to make the transition easier for faculty and staff, such as helping adjust the academic calendar, in order to make this possible.

The bill has yet to be formally presented to the senate, since Sanchez is waiting on confirmation from Moorti and others that the change would in fact be possible.

The New York Times subscriptions

The Finance Committee, in conjunction with the Institutional Affairs Committee, received approval to fund the return of digital subscription access to The New York Times for all students. The college formerly paid for both a digital subscription to the paper, available to all students, and for print copies in the dining halls, but the decision was made by the Finance Committee only to fund digital access without returning the copies of the paper to campus.

Student Ambassador Program

The senate passed a bill to fund the Student Ambassadors Program for the remainder of the year. The program, which pays current students to give information sessions about the college at low income schools in their areas over breaks, will be funded by the admissions office beginning in the 2020–2021 school year.

PE credits

Ross Commons Senator Teddy Best '22 has been working with Director of Athletics Erin Quinn to change the current requirement for physical education (PE) credits. The goal is to give students the opportunity to earn both of the required PE credits for the same activity. This would apply to all credit bearing activities, from student-led yoga classes to seasonal sports, and would benefit varsity athletes, who currently only get a maximum of one credit for their sport.

Community Council addresses dining hall dish concerns, residential life and evaluations of social houses

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preventive and holistic care going forward.

"Community Council is a great way to get information out to students, and to get a great snapshot of how students might feel about things we're developing," said Maddie Hope, the assistant director of health and wellness education and mental health promotion specialist. "I think it will continue to be a fertile ground for sharing of ideas, receiving feedback from community council and disseminating information, so I've been thankful."

The council also discussed the implementation of the How Will We Live Together report in a meeting, with presentations by Hope, Senior Associate Dean of Students Derek Doucet and AJ Place, associate dean of students for residential life.

According to Hope, a key part of the new BLUEprint housing model is the increased level of cooperation between the Residential Life staff and the Health and Wellness department.

"So the BLUEprint for Life, that section of that education model, is thinking about what can we do to make sure students get the information they need and feel like they're in a place where they feel like they can build their skills around thinking about themselves as whole people," Hope said.

Recently, Community Council has also focused on ways to encourage students to respect staff and shared spaces. Problems with students taking dishes from the dining halls and leaving them in residential halls, both in dorm kitchens and around other common spaces, have been of particular concern to the council, and members have

begun working with dining hall staff to reduce the issue.

"I think there's an overarching narrative of privilege on our campus and the problems that go into that, the big one being the dining plates conversation, was very insightful and impactful," said Roni Lezama '22, the Co-Chair of Community Council. "That conversation was kind of the tipping point for us as students ... so we chose to start meeting every week."

According to Lezama, these conversations in part propelled student members of Community Council to begin meeting more frequently on their own time, to push individual projects and make progress on efforts they care about. This is a change in the structure of the council that Lezama hopes will continue.

Community Council has also been working on an upcoming review of the college's social houses, including an examination of the role that they play in campus social life, the houses' abilities to fill beds and how to better support the houses in their missions.

"Our conversation about the social houses is pretty huge because there seems to be a lack of structure and information being dispersed about how we can help the social houses, because they play such a crucial role on our campus," Lezama said.

A committee is being formed to conduct the review next semester. Lezama also expressed an interest in discussing the well-being of the staff with regards to recent changes at the college during the next semester.

"I think a lot of the action is going to be J-Term and spring term," Lezama said.



The Local Lowdown

By BENJAMIN GLASS
Local Editor

DEC
5

Midd Night Stroll

Better Middlebury Partnership is hosting two organized 'strolls' through Middlebury center on December 5 and 12, both from 5-8 p.m.

DEC
6

Beginner Hockey Clinic

Drop into Middlebury's Memorial Sports Center at Friday from 7:45 - 9:00pm for a hockey skills-clinic, featuring drills and scrimmages. Contact Mike Morgan at 802-388-1238.

DEC
7

Free Pancake Breakfast at Middlebury Agway

Join local residents at Middlebury Agway Farm and Garden on Exchange Street for a free pancake breakfast. 7 a.m. until 2 p.m.

DEC
7

Holiday Farmer's Market

Middlebury will host a holiday themed farmer market at Mary Hogan Elementary School during normal Saturday market hours.

DEC
7

Sleep-out for homelessness

An annual event hosted in Middlebury by the John Graham Housing & Services. Visit their website for more information.

DEC
8

Very Merry Middlebury

Enjoy holiday music and choir-singing at many locations in and around Middlebury, including Mead Chapel on Middlebury College's campus. Check local calendars for more details.

Vermont snowboarding industry pioneer Jake Burton Carpenter dies at 65

By FLORENCE WU
Contributing Writer

The snowboarding industry and Vermont community mourns the loss of Jake Burton Carpenter, the founder of the major Burlington-based snowboarding company Burton Snowboards. Carpenter died on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at the age of 65. The Stowe resident “passed away peacefully” from complications related to cancer at the University of Vermont Medical Center, according to a statement released by Burton.

According to Red Bull Snowboard, Carpenter was the “godfather of snowboarding.” Before Carpenter became involved in the sport, the actions and images associated with snowboarding were very different than what comes to mind today. One could not simply drop the board, step on, bend over, strap in and ride away. Nineteen and 20-year-olds did not dominate the slopes nor were they doing double corks off Olympic size jumps. In the late '70s, snowboards were pieces of wood with leashes attached to the nose.

In 10 years, Carpenter managed to take the sport from a ‘surfing spin-off’ to a well-known and well-loved Olympic sport. In 1977, fed up with his desk job in New York, Carpenter moved to Londonderry, Vermont, near Stratton Mountain Resort. He had a background in skiing and surfing, as well as “snurfing,” the rudimentary predecessor to snowboarding, and began making snowboards in a Vermont barn. At that time, snowboarding had not gained popularity and ski resorts did not yet welcome snowboarders. His young company, dubbed “Burton Boards,” struggled.

But as Carpenter continued to sell the sport, Burton gradually gained customers, many of whom were teenagers. According to a Forbes article on Carpenter, “In those early days, the Burton brand was synonymous with snowboarding.”

In 1985, Carpenter and his wife Donna Carpenter, who became Burton's CEO in 2016, moved to Europe to start Burton's European base in Austria. Before leaving, Carpenter enrolled in the six-week German program at the Middlebury Language School, according to a blog post on the Burton website. The couple later moved back to Vermont where they have raised three sons.

Even after Burton became a major success, Carpenter did not shed the initial easy-going and “chill vibes” that are now commonly associated

with snowboarding. His company embraces a healthy and active lifestyle, providing its employees with free season passes, discounted gear, flexible hours during the winter to ride a few runs before work and the ability for employees to bring their dogs to work. Employees are encouraged to dress casually for work — “jeans, sneakers, flip flops, or mud boots if that’s your thing, and leave the ironing for tuning up your snowboard,” says the company’s hiring page.

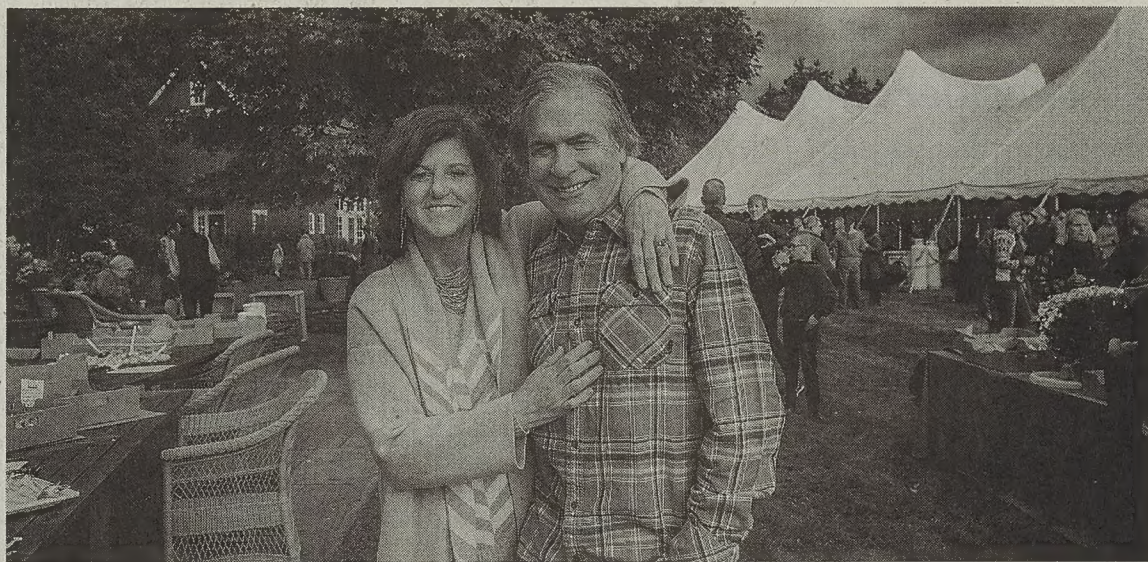
“I’ve always been in awe when around Jake because of his admiration of life, passion for sport and the lifestyle associated. His personality as a whole — it will forever live on in all of us,” said Darcy Sharpe, silver medalist in the 2018 X Games Aspen and FIS Freestyle Ski and Snowboarding World Championships, in an Instagram post. Four years ago, in an article by The New York Times, the three-time Olympic snowboarding gold medalist Shaun White called Carpenter the “cool dad of the sport.”

At Burton's retail shop in downtown Burlington, I quickly got a feel for the company's easygoing yet passionate attitude toward life and snowboarding. Upon entering, I was immediately greeted by a golden retriever whose name tag said “Bean, Burton Guide.”

The shop resembles more of a cozy mountain cabin than a retail store from one of the biggest snowboard companies in the world. It is furnished with wood with retro snowboards, which hang all over its walls; the staff wear flannel shirts and beanies. An activity wall features all the store's monthly parties, shredding events and board demos. When I left the shop, I noticed a big sign outside that said “Rest in Powder” with the hashtag #RideOnJake.

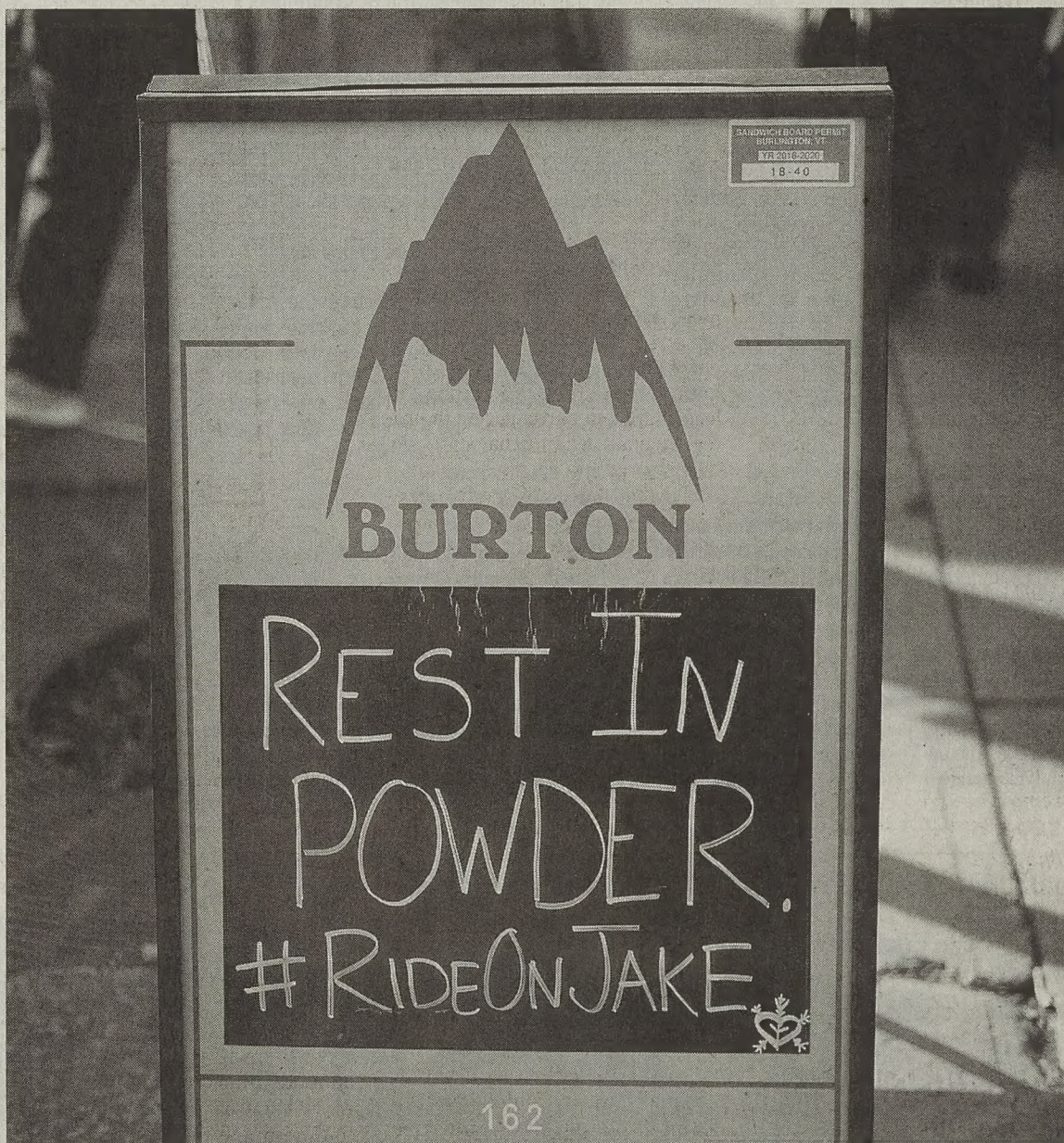
Maeve Byrne, an employee at Burlington's flagship store, reflected on her experiences at Burton. “Burton extends so much further than the hard and soft goods we sell,” she said. “Even though I’m just a retail employee amongst over a thousand employees globally, I hold a lot of pride in being able to work for Burton and help get customers as stoked about snowboarding as we are.”

Torah Bright, an Olympic gold and silver medalist in snowboarding, offered her own condolences in an Instagram post. “I am just one of the millions whose lives were changed by your vision and your passion,” she wrote. “May the mountains, snow, and gravity continue to guide the way. Shred on Jake.”



COURTESY PHOTO

Jake Carpenter (right) passed away two weeks ago after battling cancer on and off again for eight years.



FLORENCE WU/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Professionals and retailers in the snowboarding world have shared condolences for Jake Burton Carpenter in the few weeks since his death. Above, a street sign reads “Rest In Powder.” outside the Burton flag-ship store in Burlington.

Tiny houses in Middlebury gain ground

By LUCY TOWNEND
Local Editor

The nationwide tiny house movement has come to Middlebury in the latest solution to affordable housing. Homes First, a grassroots organization founded and based in Middlebury, is hoping to bring a village of tiny houses to town as a form of affordable, dignified housing.

“It all started with one woman about a year and a half ago,” said Mary Beth Simons, one of the original members of Homes First. “She wanted to do something about the housing problem in Middlebury, and so she went to a housing coalition meeting.” That woman, Middlebury resident Andrea Galiano, was then introduced to Ingrid Pixley, a member of the Counseling Service of Addison County and dedicated Charter House Coalition, who shared similar ideas to Simons. They decided to team up to try and find a solution to affordable housing in Middlebury.

After reading an article about Homes First in the Addison Independent, Simons decided to join the team, which has met every two weeks for about a year. The meetings thus far have centered around how a tiny-house village can be feasible in Middlebury. According to Simons, Homes First is “just a small group of people that want to show a different model of sustainable housing for Middlebury.”

One of the main obstacles currently facing the tiny house movement is the lack of available land on which to build. Simons hopes that by talking to community members, she can convince people with excess land to consider building tiny houses. Other options include working with the town to acquiesce public land, whether the land is bought or is given as a gift.

Tiny homes can also defy local

zoning laws, as most municipalities have a minimum square footage for new homes. Allowances to zoning laws may have to be made by the town of Middlebury.

Pushback from the general community, however, has not been an impediment to Homes First thus far. “People have good intentions in Middlebury,” Simons said. “The values of Vermont, values of Middlebury are geared towards this type of thing.”

Homes First's immediate plans include, first and foremost, introducing its idea to the Middlebury community. It held its first general meeting on Oct. 30 at Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society. “It was beautiful,” Simons said. “There was about twenty people there, and they represented all different parts of the Middlebury community.” Other plans to spread the message include putting up posters in town and increasing awareness of the Homes First Facebook page.

Simons recently took six high school students and two college students on a cross-country tiny homes tour as a part of a journalism education program called Conversations from the Open Road. According to their website, Conversations from the Open Road “are a student journalism, digital media crew probing the challenging issues and individual stories in our communities.” Students visited tiny homes villages in Syracuse and Ithaca, N.Y.; Detroit, Mich.; and Portland and Eugene, Ore. Afterwards, they made short videos about what they learned. These shorts, accompanied by an introduction by Simons, will be shown at The Marquis Theater on January 22.

Simons found certain aspects of each tiny village they visited helpful in envisioning a tiny village for Middlebury. Detroit, for example,



COURTESY PHOTO

Homes First is a Middlebury-based grassroots organization, focused on bringing a tiny house village to Middlebury as a solution to a lack of affordable housing.

has a mixture of rental-only properties and rent-to-own properties available for residents in their tiny house village. Simons also liked the aesthetic appeal of certain tiny house villages.

“In Detroit and Eugene,” Simons said, “the priority is dignified, beautiful housing.”

Another commonality between the tiny house villages was the level of input from the community. “We want everyone to feel like they can be a part of it,” Simons said. Most tiny house villages are funded by

grassroots campaigns like this one and are designed by volunteer architects and built by volunteer carpenters. Simons plans to reach out to the Architecture Department at Middlebury College to potentially form a partnership.

“It’s just wonderful to work with high school and college students,” she said, “because of that righteous understanding that we need to do something.” The best way for college students to be involved is to show up to meetings (to be posted on their Facebook page) or contact

Simons with any creative ideas or for more information.

Simons remains optimistic about the future of the tiny house village.

“It’s not scary; it’s going to work, and it’ll be beautiful,” she said.

The founders of Homes First can be reached at the following email addresses. Mary Simons, mary.beth.simons@gmail.com; Andrea Galiano, dreagaliano@icloud.com; Ingrid Pixley, ingrid.pixley@gmail.com.

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Correction: A former version of "Students protest human rights abuses in Palestine at lecture by former Israeli diplomat," from the front page of the Nov. 21 issue, reported that the Jewish Studies Department co-sponsored the Nov. 14 talk by Ishmael Khaldi. This information was incorrect, and has since been amended online at middleburycampus.com.



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THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

When it comes to open expression, keep the conversation open

editorial

The editorial represents the opinion of The Middlebury Campus editorial board.

A couple weeks ago, an email popped up in your Middlebury inbox from the Office of the President. In it, President Patton introduced the student handbook's new Policy on Open Expression (section A.5) and revised Demonstration Regulations (section C.4). As Patton outlined in her email, these new documents replace the old Demonstrations and Protests policy and represent the culmination not only of a host of open meetings, but two policy drafts (one released November 18, 2018 and a second on May 19, 2019).

You might not have read the new policies. We don't blame you (after clicking on the link, our own impulse was to retreat fairly quickly, cowed by multiple pages of sub-clauses and hyperlinks). Still, we think what's there — FAQ, resource page and all — is worth your time.

For one thing, we applaud the administration's willingness to engage with criticism of previous drafts. A lot of students' and faculty members' feedback was acknowledged and included in the alterations. For instance, the new policy loosens restrictions prohibiting college staff from participating in protests, acknowledging that staff, too, have the right to open expression.

On that note, we deeply appreciate the new policy's acknowledgement of the value of protest and expression. Where the old C.4 policy briefly affirmed that members of the Middlebury community "should always be free to support causes by orderly means," and then turned immediately to the more legal and punitive stipulations of the protest policy, the new Policy on Open Expression devotes multiple paragraphs to the importance and legitimacy of peaceful protest and demonstration. It even recognizes that learning "occurs inside and outside the classroom, often involving public speech and action through which people affirm and enact their values" — allowing, in other words, that student activism and protest are not only important, but vital, educating tools for bringing about change on campus.

Finally, we applaud the new policy for its thoroughness. Sure, there are too many documents and pages for most students to parse through en route to class, or in between lengthy political science readings.

Still, we appreciate the edifying impulse behind the FAQ's lengthy itemization of "non-substantially disruptive acts," and the list of links on the "Resources on Speech and Inclusion" page. We also appreciate the policy's clear detailing of consequences for violating policy; now, students can go online and determine the fairly specific repercussions of certain actions. A student who is "warned, asked to leave, refuses and/or must be escorted or arrested by law enforcement officers," for instance, will "ordinarily" face "probationary status to letter of official college discipline, depending on the severity of the disruption."

end, we'd also scrap some of the more jargon-y additions — phrases like "robust public sphere" more closely resemble the stuff of admissions pamphlets than they do concise, clear protest policy. Most student readers are less interested in sweeping statements of purpose and more interested in concrete details about how to stand up for what they believe in without incurring major consequences.

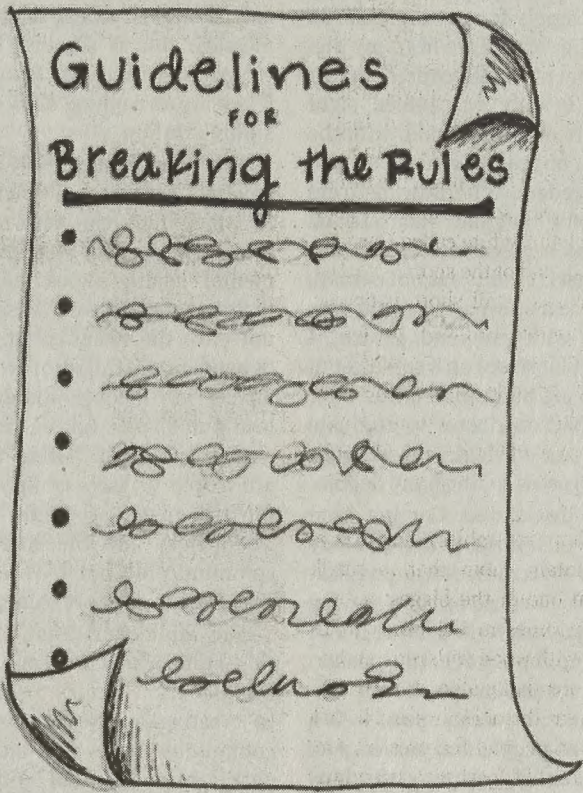
And then there's the question of the policy itself. Taken together, the revised C.4 and new A.5 bring with them a couple of significant changes for Middlebury students activists. Now, student protesters are required not only to submit an

accountable to the promises and values included in them. The FAQ states, for instance, that Middlebury is committed to an "everyday ethic of inclusion" and seeks to "make Middlebury a place where everyone's voice can be heard." That's great, but begs the question — how? Statements like those would benefit from the same kind of specificity that was used to distinguish "substantive" from "non-substantive" disruption, or that which was used to outline potential consequences. Just as a multitude of conversations went into the creation of the new policies, so too should many more conversations arise from them.

In the wake of these new policies, Director of Public Safety Lisa Burchard is offering an inaugural J-Term workshop about "Activism on Campus." Like the new policies, we think this workshop constitutes a step in the right direction. Again, we appreciate Public Safety's willingness to engage with the subject. That said, the course description reads as slightly prescriptive; we're not so sure Public Safety knows what constitutes "effective" protesting any better than we do. We hope the workshop looks more like a two-sided, mutually-instructive conversation, rather than a top-down lecture or course. We also hope that, if enough students show interest, Public Safety expands the course (or makes the information available elsewhere).

At the end of the day, students and administrators' definitions of what constitutes "effective" — even acceptable — protesting will likely always differ. In the wake of the Murray and Legutko incidents, however, it's especially important that the administration make their guidelines and policies as clear and accessible as possible. It's equally important that students do their homework to understand the risks they're taking and the consequences they're incurring.

It's also worth noting that not all effective student protesting takes place within guidelines. The recent Harvard-Yale football game protest reaffirmed that there are causes, like climate change, whose importance outstrips any kind of administration-imposed consequence. Often, breaking rules or coming up with creative methods of protest represent powerful statements in themselves. Still, it's worth familiarizing yourself with the rules (not to mention, ensuring that those rules seem fair). That way, you can stand confidently behind whatever statement you're making, and how.



SARAH FAGAN

To clarify: We don't think the new policies are perfect. In fact, as student journalists, we're sort of dying to give them an edit. Not only is the language difficult to decipher, but at times the policies read almost as though they were intentionally written to be vague or convoluted. We understand that college documents often adopt an elevated tone. But as policies primarily geared at student activists (not to mention, published as part of the student handbook), shouldn't they be written with a student audience in mind? Unnecessarily elevated or vague language only reinforces the confusion and disconnect between students and the administration which often surrounds Middlebury protests in the first place. To that

"Event Scheduling Request," but to sit down with the event management office and Public Safety to review any relevant policies or issues. While clauses like these don't differ too much from the stuff of other colleges' policies (Amherst, for instance, likewise makes students register with either college police, student activities or events), only time will tell how the new rules will play out in Middlebury's own activist culture. In the event that these policies aren't effective on Middlebury's campus, we hope the administration remains responsive to feedback going forward.

To that end, we encourage students not only to continue to voice their opinions on the policies in question, but to hold the college

International diversity as a mindset instead of a number

"There's always this whirlwind of things that come to my mind when people ask 'where are you from?'" said Elsa Korpi '22. Korpi lived in Finland until she was six, moved to Berlin for four years of school and then moved to Brussels and Helsinki before attending United World College Hong Kong and eventually coming to Middlebury.

"It's hard to decide on a place to say where I'm from," said Jackson Evans '22, who was born in the US and lived in Melbourne, Australia for the last seven years of his life.

I also find the question "Where are you from?" a difficult one. I was born in Shanghai, China, moved to Hong Kong for high school and then New Zealand after I graduated. Now, I go to school in the States. Any answer that only references a single country feels like a lie. Not only that, but it is a lie constantly in danger of exposure by my ignorance of the good restaurants in Shanghai, my broken Cantonese or, if I say I'm from New Zealand, my lack of a kiwi accent. As a result, I have learned to spill my entire life story in a five-second-long, well-rehearsed answer to avoid questions such as "Who's your favorite All-Blacks?" or an enthusiastic, fluent reply in Cantonese that leaves me with nothing but an awkward laugh.

I have always felt like an imposter, stuck between these nationalities and the stereotypes they carry. At Middlebury, I found many other "country-hoppers". It's comforting, but it also reveals a growing trend of global migration in the international community that needs recognition and support. "Breaking down those pre-formed ideas of you needing to be from one place is important," Evans said to me. Especially at Middlebury, where many international students have prior study abroad backgrounds, national stereotypes are becoming

increasingly inaccurate and misleading. Rejecting that requires effort from both the international and domestic students.

As a first step, it's important for international migrants to be okay with developing a sense of identity without a sense of nationality. "I have roots in Chinese culture and a Chinese passport, but I don't

started valuing these pieces of places that I carry with me. In the face of globalization, we may be increasingly obliged to shed the comfort of having roots in any one place. Still, this is not necessarily a bad thing: it's only when you stop trying to fit into one box that you can truly embrace the fullness of international migrant identity.

after frequently emphasizing that, by being at Middlebury, we have the same access to the news sources like The New York Times. "There are certain political meanings to the Chinese identity that no one can avoid. I don't think to be Chinese means that I am a Communist or I endorse everything my government does," said Kexin Tang '22.5,

a Chinese student who grew up in Chengdu, China and went to high school in UWC New Mexico. "I feel like most of the time people don't listen. They come with preconceptions of what China is like and they only seek to confirm them." Very often, I feel that my opinions are valued more when I identify myself as kiwi as opposed to Chinese — that's a problem. We should learn to separate individual values with their nation's political reputation. The fact that we are at Middlebury College is proof of our intellectual capacities and our ideas should be valued based on their content, not our nationality.

It's not an easy transition to make but it's an important and necessary one in order to accommodate the changing nature of internationality on campus. Middlebury has always campaigned for diversity and global education. It's time for us to realize that diversity should be more than a statistic on the school's admission's website, but a mindset and an environment that is open to challenging stereotypes and giving students equal opportunities of expression regardless of nationality.

Editor's note: Elsa Korpi, quoted in this piece, is an Arts & Academics editor for The Campus.

op-ed

Florence Wu is a member of the class of 2022.



SARAH FAGAN

perceive myself as being loyal to the Party," said Katelyn Mei '22, who was born in China and went to a public high school in Brooklyn, NY. "I am just a human being with mixed cultural backgrounds. I don't think I belong to any specific nation."

For a long time, I struggled with this lack of belonging. I have given a single response to the question: "Where are you from?" and tried to play along with the stereotypes of that specific nationality. I have also tried to force a sense of belonging by watching rugby or faking an accent until I realized after many failed attempts, that roots can't grow out of anywhere and identity can exist without belonging to any particular region. "We are the weird foreigners in our own country," said Korpi. At some point, I stopped "home searching" and

For me, refusing to play along with stereotypes myself was a first step that allowed me to ask others to reject the stereotypes or simplifications they imposed on me. I realized I must learn to appreciate my own identity first before I can really show others how to understand or respect it.

Personally, I'm not offended by people's initial assumptions based on my nationality — it's hard to avoid stereotypes when they are often the grounds with which we use to assess others. However, it gets frustrating when your repeated attempts to correct such biases are ignored. "People wanted to box me into something that I know is untrue," said Korpi.

Being ethnically Chinese, I very often feel the weight of tags like "brainwashed", "nationalist" and "locked behind the firewall", even

The skinniest college in America

About a month ago, I decided to take a medical leave from Middlebury mid-semester to seek treatment for my bulimia nervosa. I was a shell of a person by the time I left campus. After a sophomore year filled with salads and excessive exercise, I spent my junior fall gorging on food and forcing myself to throw it all up. Addicted to the cycle of bingeing and purging, I spent more time in the bathroom than the classroom.

My eating disorder started in eighth grade as an attempt to find control amidst a home environment of instability and parental abuse. I gained power by showing my abuser that I could do something to my body she had no control over. In college, I saw an opportunity to escape from my past; still, I could not escape my eating disorder. Instead, Middlebury's culture of "wellness" proved to be a further catalyst for my disordered eating habits. My disease festered in an environment that values athleticism, healthy eating and perfectionism. And my restrictive habits were reinforced by other girls crippled by the same disease.

op-ed

Quinn Boyle is a member of the class of 2021.

I sought help for the first time last January. I had a few meetings with counselors at Parton Health Center. However, with no background in treating eating issues, the counselors at Parton were unequipped to help me combat my disorder. To make matters worse, resources outside the college are slim. As Middlebury's website warns: "Students should be aware that the closest eating disorder specialists are in Rutland, VT and Burlington, VT (approximately 45 – 60 minutes away)." With few resources close by, and a lack of insurance coverage, I struggled alone for a long time. For a school that claims to be dedicated to students' health and wellness, the lack of resources for students with eating disorders is not only careless, but negligent. Clearly, on-campus resources are not enough for students; the administration needs to improve them.

My frustration with the school's deficiency in resources escalated this fall. My off-campus therapist

tried to help me assemble a make-shift "outpatient team" to support me throughout the semester. When she contacted Parton Health Center asking that a nurse perform weekly weigh-ins (which basically entails me stepping on a scale and a nurse writing the number down), Parton said that they could not perform the task. I was too much of a liability. Again, they referred me off campus.

For my own health and safety, I could no longer remain at school. When I met with my dean about the prospect of leaving school, he notified me of a policy that requires students who take medical leave to take the entire year off. If I decided to seek treatment, I would not be eligible for re-admission in the spring term. To add to my discouragement, I discovered that a student is only guaranteed eight semesters of financial aid, with the ability to appeal for a ninth semester if needed. Withdrawing from a semester that has been started counts as a semester toward this total, even if credits are not earned. Which means, even if I could reasonably withdraw and return, I would still lose out on a semester of financial aid and would either have to overload on classes to graduate on time, or navigate the school's appeal process to finish my degree.

I was devastated. Coming from an abusive family, living at home until fall 2020 was not a possibility for me. I contemplated staying on campus, white-knuckling it and risking the chance of getting sicker. But, persuaded by my unique circumstances, my dean spoke with a number of people and gained permission that if I were to withdraw I would be considered for readmission for the spring 2020 semester. My dean made very clear that this would be an exception. Only once this agreement was solidified did I decide to leave Middlebury and seek a residential treatment program (where another Middlebury student soon joined me), hoping all the while that I would be able to return to school after passing through treatment.

After two weeks of treatment, my dean had me submit a "Medical Return Form" that my therapist filled out outlining my readiness to return in the spring. I filled out the form in November with the standard expectation that an updated version of the form would be asked for sometime in January

when there was a clearer sense of how I was doing and what the treatment recommendations might be. And yet last week — after merely two and a half weeks of treatment — the Care Team convened at Middlebury and decided my case for me. I would not be eligible to return in the spring. They did not seem to care that I still had three more months before the spring semester started, more than enough time to complete residential treatment along with a few weeks in a step-down partial hospitalization program. Middlebury College did not even give me a chance.

This experience leads me to believe that the administration is too blinded by liability to evaluate what is in a student's best interest. The message this is sending to those struggling with eating disorders is: if you are struggling, do not tell the administration.

This policy is incredibly unfair to students like me, who lack homes to which they can return. It neglects the needs of students whose mental health issues stem from their upbringing, and those who do not have the resources to live independently. It disproportionately affects low-income students who lose out on the tuition they have already invested. These students are forced to leave campus to pay for treatment programs because Middlebury and the surrounding community do not have adequate resources to support students.

The Middlebury that instituted this policy does not sound like a Middlebury "deeply committed to creating a diverse, welcoming community with full and equal participation for all individuals and groups." If Middlebury College strives to take into account students' best interests, the administration should overturn this blanket policy and assess medical leaves and readmission on a case-by-case basis. Moreover, the school should invest resources into supporting students with eating disorders: hiring a nutritionist, employing a specialist, starting support groups.

Those struggling with mental health issues on this campus form a community that is, sadly, expanding. Still, it is a powerful one. I encourage others to put pressure on the school to provide these essential resources. To stand by those struggling and show them they are not alone.

In support of Middlebury's history

op-ed

John Gosselin is a member of the class of 2020.

Middlebury College has a deep commitment to history. We have a History department, we have Special Collections and we share a museum filled with historical objects from throughout the world. The college also demonstrates commitment to its own, local history: commemorative plaques are found on many of our buildings, our library often shows exhibitions on Middlebury's history (including an excellent one this semester on the history of the gay rights movement at the college) and at least two books have been written on the topic, one by David Stameshkin and one by David H. Bain.

This outward evidence of our belief in the importance of history implies the assumption that what has occurred before will influence our choices today. The history of the college, then, bears some importance to the present moment and where we, as a community, will go in the future. Still, students typically do not think about this history on a daily, weekly, or even quadrennial basis; that is to say, many never think about it and know virtually nothing about it. This lack of knowledge of the college history damages our community and lessens the sense of belonging that we would like to feel. If more students understood this history, or were even vaguely aware of its general outlines, then it is more likely that more students would feel as though they belong in this community. In order to increase awareness of the college history and hopefully to affect other salutary changes, I propose a simple solution: put one copy of the history by Mr. Bain into every dorm room on campus (and ensure their safety by charging students for missing or irreparably damaged copies, just as we would charge students for missing or irreparably damaged chairs or desks). I have introduced a bill to the SGA Senate which would support a program by which this plan could come to fruition.

Now, before anyone accuses me of being unfairly favoring Mr. Bain (even to the detriment of Mr. Stameshkin), I should say that the reason Mr. Bain's book is more suitable for this task than Mr. Stameshkin's is that Mr. Bain's book contains a larger number of illustrations, uses

more accessible language and positions itself as an introduction to the college history. Hopefully, this may even lead students to the book by Mr. Stameshkin if they wanted further clarification on certain points.

Even before a student reads Bain's book, however, they would likely already have felt a greater sense of belonging merely by knowing that it is in their room and by being able to point to it. The essence, or definition, of Bain's book is tied to the physical, geographical location of Middlebury, Vermont, and does not extend much past the campus itself. What every student, past, present and future, shares with every other student of the college is the fact that we all live in the same town for at least some amount of time in order to achieve our degrees. This commonality is so simple that its idea can be transferred to the book: whenever one points at the book, or sees it, they will understand the importance of this common location. The book works to achieve this effect by definition, as it is a collection of the most notable people who have lived here and the most notable events which have occurred here.

Some objections I have heard when I have discussed this idea with my friends have included the environmental cost of printing, the feeling of an invasion of privacy and a lack of confidence that anyone would pay any attention to the book at all. To answer the first objection: the college already has many copies being stored for their eventual sale. More significantly, the number of books to be printed would be relatively small and the paper costs could be recouped by printing fewer publications and marketing materials for a certain amount of time. We might also find it economical to produce a new and less expensive edition which would use less paper. To the second objection: if your room is on campus, then it is not actually your room. The college has always owned it and will always own it. Recent vandalism also suggests that when the college entrusts its rooms completely to students, they damage them and decrease staff morale. To the third objection I say that, though some people would surely throw the book into the abyss of their closet for the semester, other people would surely put it high upon their shelf. If even a few people feel as though the book has helped them belong here, then I believe this proposal is worthwhile and the bill should be passed.

Ask Tré



column

Tre Stephens '21 answers the Middlebury community's burning questions.

Dear Tré,

As someone who has experienced trauma, I find that I put myself in unhealthy situations and relationships with people more often than I should. I have desires and like everyone else, a need for connection, but I am always putting myself in situations. How do I make sure I am putting myself first and how do I make sure that I am not hurting my mental health by doing something I believe I want, or fostering relationships I think I need?

Sincerely, Anonymous

Dear Reader,

This is a question that doesn't really have a simple answer. Here is what I will do: I will share a story with you and hopefully it helps you come up with a solution for your problem.

As a gay black man, it was and still is very hard to figure out if I was ever going to find good love in my life. In a world where every part of my being is wrong, how could I ever be good enough for someone? When I first started dating, I found it to be extremely hard, especially in the gay community. It is a community where we are all supposed to be proud of who we are, yet we reduce each other to labels like "twink," "otter" or "bear." Don't ask me what they mean, because I don't even know.

Anyways, while I was starting to date, I did meet a guy. This guy was nice to me and made me feel good

about myself. After a while, I eventually decided to become his boyfriend. Now, things were good in the beginning, but after a while I started losing parts of myself to him and this relationship. I found myself doing things for him that I would never do today, calling it a compromise because I was afraid that he would leave me. I wish I knew that he would have still left me, even if I didn't do those things. When he left me, I was broken inside, wondering to myself how I let this happen. How did I lose him and what could I have done better? The reality is that I did all that I could and he still left me. Not because I was a bad boyfriend, or because our relationship was trash, but because he got bored with me. It took a really good friend of mine to help me see that I have to value myself before someone else can value me. I had to be ok with all the parts of myself and know that I bring value to any relationships I've had and will continue to have.

In terms of trauma, it is no secret that I am a sexual assault survivor. After being assaulted, I didn't know what to do or how to feel anymore. I wasn't sure if I was capable of being loved and that really put me in a dark place. I made some dangerous decisions and put myself in terrible situations. I didn't want to be safe anymore and I was willing to take risks just to be able to feel something for myself and others. I wish I would have known that it takes time for traumatic wounds to heal, whether it be mental or physical. I wish I knew that I needed to work through my pain. Over time, it became clear that what I needed was to get to the root of the problem. I asked myself a very important question. Why am I sacrificing myself? More specifically, why can't I be happy with the thought of being alone? The answer was hard for me to hear. It's because I didn't love who I was or who I became. I didn't think I was worthy of the love and affection from another person and when I did get that I made choices that I never wanted to make again.

In loving myself and finding new ways to love myself, I have opened my world to new possibilities. While I am still trying to find a way where I can now love myself and let another person into my life, I also understand

that sometimes those moments will have to wait. Loving yourself doesn't mean just thinking positive thoughts. It's about taking the time to make decisions for the betterment of your well-being. For lack of better words, it's taking the time to get your sh*t together. It's mustering up the courage to tell someone that you don't have the time to spend with them. It's doing whatever you have to do to make yourself feel whole and content without harming yourself in the process. I had to be strong for myself — and that is what I would tell you to do.

My advice to you, in terms of any kind of relationship, is to figure out what is it that you want for yourself. I get that you have needs and desires, but you have to ask yourself why you want those things so badly. What is the cost for you right now? Do you need this commitment right now? These are questions you should ask yourself. Take some time to do things for yourself and by yourself. Become OK with the idea of being alone. Learn what makes you special and what brings you joy. Find ways to make yourself happy before you can expect someone else to bring you happiness. Before we can make relationships with other people, we have to have healthy relationships with ourselves, or else we will fall back into that trap of losing ourselves to other people. Don't be afraid to be a little greedy with your time. You have one life to live, and any decent person or someone who cares about you would let you take the time you need to get things together. If they can't see things that way, those kinds of people are toxic and you can't be around them. Be greedy, love yourself and be patient. It will all get better.

Love, Tre Stephens

Well that's a wrap, folks! Ask Tre has been such a great way for me to connect with many people around the middlebury community. Thank you all for your support and reading my column. What started out as an idea between friends has grown and become something great. I hope Ask Tre can return next semester. Bye, for now — and good luck on everyone's finals.

This is a f***ing emergency, Middlebury

op-ed

Emily Thompson is a member of the class of 2022.

Over the past several months, anti-government protests in places like Hong Kong and Iraq have made headlines across the globe. High schoolers on almost every continent have held strikes against climate inaction. This rising global tension is proof of the urgency of our current socioeconomic and environmental reality. Yet while activists' rhetoric is inspiring, a kind of dissonance lodges in my chest every morning as I scan the headlines. I look around Middlebury's campus and suddenly feel so separate from the rest of the planet. I wonder what we as students are doing with our time on this campus. I wonder what future we are learning, working and paying for.

As Middlebury students, we are on a trajectory to live the majority of our lives in a global state of climate and socioeconomic emergency. I therefore wonder why we are often not being trained for and encouraged to live lives of consequence, lives that can adapt to the crisis and maybe even work to mitigate its worst impacts. Middlebury's mission, after all, is to "prepare students to... address the world's most challenging problems," is it not?

And yet it feels like the status quo on campus is to ignore the urgency of the climate crisis (as well as the socioeconomic inequities that exacerbate the climate crisis and disproportionately distribute its impacts). Most of the time, Middlebury continues to uphold business-as-usual practices in conflict with the upswell of catastrophe and civic action outside of our collegiate bubble. As students, we often do not question the most important decisions of our lives — majors, career paths, purpose in

life — in the context of the urgent socioeconomic and environmental crisis. Instead, the values of another generation color our professional goals: sustainable (and often cushy) salaries, some level of status and maybe even happiness or passion. While those values are all valid, there is a part of this equation that is severely lacking: the pursuit of a positive socioeconomic and environmental impact.

Often, students accept suggestions as to what an appropriate profession to strive towards may be, without space for reflection on the impact of those professions on the planet. I've had a professor encourage my class to apply for internships for consulting firms that analyze the economics of antitrust cases on behalf of firms being sued for antitrust practices. Our own Center for Careers and Internships invites recruitment officers from Goldman Sachs and Wells Fargo to recruit fresh talent for their profit-centered business operations. In fact, so far this year, there have been almost twice as many finance, consulting, and business events (~17) hosted by the CCI as there have been social impact events (~9).

On the other hand, there are professors and recruitment officers who challenge the status quo. These individuals encourage students to reflect on their potential socioeconomic and environmental impacts, as they believe that Middlebury's job is to prepare us for lives of social and environmental consequence. For instance, one of my professors encouraged my classmates and I to work for the DOJ, breaking up mergers and acquisitions and empowering consumers in a neoliberal socioeconomic landscape. Another professor assigned a semester-long philosophy project wherein we engaged with

Continued on Page 8

New student group calls for sensible drug policies

op-ed

Signed **Maria Bobbitt-Chertock '19.5, C Green '19.5, Kineret Grant-Sasson '20, Amy Egan '21, Lily Shale '20, and the rest of Middlebury's new Students for Sensible Drug Policy chapter.**

Because our friends have been punished for drug use, or have had nowhere to go for adequate treatment and counseling, we, the members of Middlebury's new Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) chapter, have come together to support substance users on campus and in the broader community. We want to stand up with and for those among us who have experienced unwanted institutional scrutiny and neglect. We also want to emphasize and encourage the work students already do — on their own, often without realizing it — to keep each other safe when they use drugs or alcohol.

This October, our original Middlebury interest group elected to become part of SSDP, which is an international grassroots network of students dedicated to ending the war on drugs via harm reduction strategies. Harm reduction is an advocacy framework that recognizes that drug use is a part of our social reality and so strives to mitigate its harmful effects rather than punish those involved in the use and proliferation of licit and illicit drugs. Harm reductionists work to complicate dominant ideas about drugs and addiction, empower users to participate in drug policy-making, develop empathetic services and resources for users, and educate about safe drug use without preaching abstinence. Given Middlebury's spatial and socioeconomic context, our SSDP chapter especially seeks to recognize the ways in which, as the Harm Reduction Coalition writes, "the realities of poverty, class, racism, social isolation, past trauma, sex-based discrimination and other social inequalities affect both people's vulnerability to and capacity for effectively dealing with drug-related harm."

Middlebury has already enacted certain policies that align with SSDP's framework. For instance, the college's Good Samaritan Policy protects student drug users who might otherwise be wary of seeking medical care for fear of punishment. The Health & Wellness Office offers education sessions for students who use alcohol, cannabis and tobacco, and it hopes to have organized education for students who use narcotics by next fall.

However, when operating within an overarching, persistent culture of abstinence, shame or punishment, isolated policies and measures like these cannot reach their fullest potential. For instance, many students remain reluctant to use these services because of the stigma that surrounds them and fear of repercussions from the administration. Middlebury's approach to safety is perhaps epitomized by Community Council's decision (publicized earlier this semester) to install dozens of new surveillance cameras in areas of campus where illicit behavior has been previously reported or suspected. As preventative measures typically foreshadow, even mimic punitive measures — take for example how the administration used video footage of the Charles Murray protest to punitively target student activists — we must fundamentally reorient the logics of Middlebury's institutional policy making.

To that end, our SSDP chapter's first initiative is to host a Narcan/Naloxone training session for students. Narcan is a safe and easy-to-administer emergency treatment for opioid overdoses. We believe that organizing a Narcan training would foster a culture of community responsibility and care. Such an event would not be without precedent, either; many other U.S. colleges have hosted trainings (Yale, Columbia, Wesleyan, Stony Brook, The New School, Ithaca, Beloit, Mt. Holyoke, to name a few). Moreover, Public Safety has already elected to be trained in Narcan administration (which shows that Public Safety officers have observed or at least suspect the potential need for this training on campus).

Our hope going forward is to create and participate in other, similar initiatives to support our broader community in the town of Middlebury and Addison County. For example, we hope to volunteer at statewide expungement clinics, which help people with past criminal convictions update their records in accordance with statutes of limitation and changes in the law. We will also support bill H.162, a proposal to legalize the opioid addiction treatment drug buprenorphine, when it returns to the Vermont Statehouse in January.

If you would like to learn more about SSDP and the work we do, you can email us at middlebury@chapters.ssdp.org, or attend one of our weekly meetings, on Tuesdays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Queer Studies House.

This is a f***ing emergency (cont.)

Continued from Page 7

community partners that incorporate a perennialist, regenerative philosophy into their practices. Another professor invited a Green Corps recruitment officer to our class to encourage my classmates and I to attend their organizing school upon graduation. And there are countless other professors and staff who encourage us to research the effects of climate change, work for the state or federal government, write for publications that speak truth to power, or use our disciplines to affect change in other ways.

Still, these professors should not act alone. I believe it is the role of individual faculties and the broader college to contextualize each discipline in the future climate and socioeconomically affected world. Curricula itself must change, addressing questions that will become increasingly relevant in a world of climate and socioeconomic chaos. For instance, how does environmental degradation impact the human body? How can we restructure the global economy to respond to resource scarcity resulting from declining crop yields? How can we use art to move people towards personal and political change? Likewise, the CCI must view their mission

as channeling students towards socioeconomic and environmentally-minded futures.

However, it is not just on the college; students should take initiative and use our talents to create counter-hegemonic art, engineer batteries for solar power, run for office on a progressive climate platform. It does not matter what your major or passion is. Many of us are lucky to have the resources, opportunity and talent; it is now time to change what it means to be a Middlebury College alum.

As David Roberts said, "This [climate crisis] is a fucking emergency." We should be obligated to ourselves, each other and the planet to choose professional lives that result in positive social, economic and environmental impacts and to view our talents and interests as vehicles through which we all can begin to tackle the climate and socioeconomic crisis. Middlebury should emphasize, not shrink away from that obligation. It should even fundamentally change its mission as we propel ourselves into an irrevocably-altered future.

op-ed

Joanie Praamsma is the director of the Pregnancy Resource Center of Addison County.

The Pregnancy Resource Center of Addison County (PRCAC) has been portrayed unfairly on the campus of Middlebury. Three years ago, I took on the position of director of the Pregnancy Resource Center of Addison County and have since seen multiple attempts to present this community resource negatively, without adequate knowledge of facts to verify raised concerns.

At each of the last two Student Activity Fairs, where the PRCAC had tables, a handful of students intercepted attendees with a sheet that contained warnings about our center and crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs) in general. The information included quotes from other CPCs and a link to a John Oliver show about CPCs. None of the accusations were factual about the center in Middlebury. Furthermore, in December 2018, there was a display in the Davis Library lobby about CPCs. That same year, The Campus wrote an article about the PRCAC. A petition was initiated by some students to ban the center from any presence on the campus. Posters were put up on campus warning students to beware of deceptive CPCs. I am afraid that students who may want to access the type of support we offer are being misled.

I have always had a passion for helping families in crisis. Before beginning at the PRCAC, I spent 11 years as a caseworker for foster children and families and then 10 years as an adoption worker. What became clear to me from those years of experience (as well as from becoming a mother of four biological children and one adopted child) is the fierce love a parent has for their child. Pregnancy decisions, relationships and parenting all pose challenges and obstacles that can be overwhelming, yet most every parent — or parent-to-be — desires to protect their child. The PRCAC can offer respect and support to those facing relationship, pregnancy and parenting struggles, as we are an organization that values all human life. The PRCAC wants to provide a supportive setting where someone will listen to whatever challenges are faced. Our mission is to offer compassion, hope and the practical help of education, material resources and referrals to community services. There have been numerous allegations, however, that our center offers something very different — that we are deceptive, that we have

Truth be told

a political agenda, and that we manipulate women. I believe these are fundamentally wrong.

Recently, a Middlebury College student writing for VTDigger published an article that once again bolstered perspectives that pregnancy centers deceive and try to coerce women out of having abortions. Again, that article settled for non-specific and unfounded accusations against CPCs. A Middlebury professor was consulted for this article, who stated that she is convinced that the pregnancy center would use "deception to further a political position." This claim is unsubstantiated in every respect, and no evidence was provided as support. The PRCAC's efforts to offer information and support for alternatives to abortion, parenting education, material resources and healthy relationship classes are neither deceptive nor political. Whatever happened to abortion being "safe, legal and rare"? Abortion is legal, and we at the CPC do not prevent anyone from making the decision to have one. We believe every woman deserves to make a well-informed decision that she can look back on and say, "I had all the information to make the most responsible decision and one that I can live with." We offer support to help face the challenges of carrying a pregnancy to term and the results of that — whether parenting or placing for adoption. We do not coerce, but aim instead to empower, through making available accurate information about all options. Clients of the center in Middlebury have attested to the nature of our services. Exit survey comments include: "Everyone is really friendly and never makes you feel out of place. I felt respected and understood." "They don't judge, and everyone is so outgoing." "I would recommend this center to a friend." A Google review from a client attests that "the PRC is seriously a life saver. Everyone who works there is so welcoming and judgment free. This resource is amazing. I recommend it to any woman in need...pregnant or not!" I am not aware of any clients of the PRCAC who have been interviewed who can verify the accusations being made against us.

The Middlebury professor stated in the VTDigger article that "Even if they're not using false statements or statistics, the implication they make is that abortion is harmful and if they are saying that abortion is harmful to women that is untrue." I can't speak to what occurs at Planned Parenthood or clinics that perform or refer for abortion. But I do not forget the stories of those who have shared their own abortion experiences with me. One story heard recently was from a woman who told me about

her abortion during college, where she met the doctor for the first time when she saw him through the stirrups. As he began the procedure, his first words to her were to tell her that are she was further along than he had thought. He then proceeded with the abortion while she hyperventilated on the table. A nurse stood by her side and just told her that she would be okay. Another young woman contacted our center recently to seek help after her abortion only a month prior. She stated that she was having nightmares and couldn't sleep because of flashbacks to her abortion procedure. Besides the testimonies I have heard from women who have struggled long and hard with abortion decisions, I can provide research that show negative emotional and psychological effects of abortion. I can only conclude that for some, fierce love for a child begins already in the womb.

Several years ago, I was a presenter for a federal grant program called the "Infant Adoption Awareness Initiative." This was geared to Title X organizations, including Planned Parenthood. In the presentation on understanding infant adoption, a Planned Parenthood employee told me that she would never bring up adoption because she didn't want a woman to think she was trying to talk her out of an abortion. This is not consistent with a commitment to informed choices. At the center we are clear that not all women struggle with an abortion, but some do.

The issue of abortion currently has created deep divides, and at times contempt between those who disagree ideologically on the morality of abortion. There seems to be no room, for some, to respect the efforts of those with whom they disagree, who provide helpful support and services.

Finally, I would ask that the faculty and students of Middlebury College recognize and acknowledge that those with ideological differences can find things in common and allow each other to provide services that do in fact support those who seek help. A recent New York Times article on CPCs demonstrated that a religious organization offering support to women facing pregnancy challenges was serving a real need. We will never produce a collaborative effort to meet the needs of the vulnerable if we hold contempt for one another. Antagonistic articles and efforts to smear the work of the Pregnancy Center will only short-change a resource that some may find helpful and supportive.

Middlebury is failing its students with disabilities and injuries

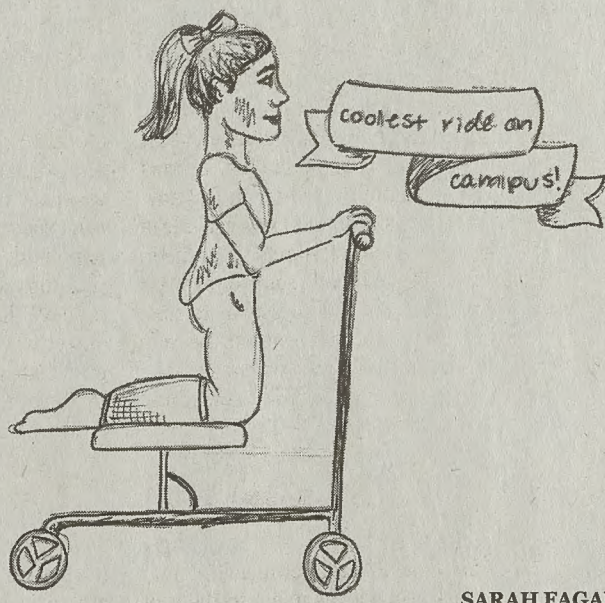
I'm sobbing, furiously wiping tears from my eyes with the back of my sleeve as I push myself on a KneeRover scooter in a mad dash to make my orthopedics appointment. I slip and slide, desperately trying to maintain traction on the sidewalk covered in a thin layer of icy slush, clutching my mini hand-brake fully against the handlebars as the scooter rockets down the College Street hill towards town. Out of the corner of my eye, I see the bus pull out of the stop. I've missed my appointment.

Thirty minutes before, I had called PubSafe, confident that they could give me a ride to my appointment just as they'd taken me to the hospital after my initial injury. They could not.

Since I hurt my foot three days before, navigating Middlebury had become a nightmare. The daily frustrations started at night, when unsteady and scared of falling on my crutches, I crawled on all fours up the two flights of stairs to my room on the third floor of Allen Hall, trying to ignore the pain of the built-up bruises on my knees. Leaving my building the next morning, I faced one of the many doors on campus with a decorative "Caution Automatic Door" sticker and a handicapped button that didn't function.

That day, getting around campus had been particularly difficult. The thick flakes of falling snow and accumulation of slippery

slush made the campus practically impossible to navigate. Trying to reach my classes in Warner and the Johnson Memorial Building class in Warner's hemi, I desperately gripped the icy railing as I hoped up the stairs, swallowing my fear of falling down the rock slabs.



SARAH FAGAN

connections and the ability and comfort level to constantly advocate for oneself is not a functioning system. Middlebury is not a functioning institution for people with temporary disabilities. It is certainly not for those with permanent mobility constraints.

Slowly renovating Munroe, then Warner, then every single non-ADA-compliant building on campus (and trust me, there are many) is not enough. Middlebury needs an institutional support system that is actively advertised so that when students injure themselves, they know who they can reach out to and how they can get help. For the buildings that clearly fail ADA requirements, the college needs to create ways to make them more accessible while they wait for the opportunity to redo them. Where they do have structures meant to increase accessibility such as automatic doors, they should at least work.

The kindness and generosity of the Middlebury community is wonderful, but it's a band-aid solution for a problem that requires institutional change.

op-ed

Sophia McDermott-Hughes is a member of the class of 2023.

Luckily, everyone around me had bent over backwards to help me in those three days and beyond. A classmate who I barely knew refused any sort of payment and let me borrow his KneeRover for free. People I'd never spoken to before carried the scooter up and down stairs at my request, hurried past me to open doors and asked if I needed help as I maneuvered around the dining halls. I am so grateful for the incredible support of the Middlebury community.

However, a system that relies on luck, the goodwill of others, social

Letter to the editor

As a geology professor at Middlebury College, I am proud to be involved with the “Energy2028” initiative, which seeks to switch entirely to renewable energy and reduce overall energy consumption at the college by 25%. A major part of reaching 100% renewable energy is the 5 MW solar array being developed by Encore Renewables on ~28 acres of college land located between South Street Extension and Route 30. The originally proposed site was nearly perfect, situated in a broad valley about a half mile southwest of the road. With mature trees to the east and west, the vast tract of steel and silicon would have been well hidden from all angles. I was pleased with the initial site when I visited it two months ago. Unfortunately, subsequent engineering tests revealed that the area contains shallow bedrock and some wetlands that would require additional engineer-

ing work, thus driving up the cost of the project. As a result, Encore is now seeking to move the project eastward, to a site with zero natural shielding and entirely unobstructed sightlines from South Street Extension. Thus our beloved Energy2028 has arrived at what is becoming, for environmentalists, an all-too-familiar conflict — pitting Vermont’s stunning natural aesthetic against the footprint of renewable energy that we so desperately need to fight climate change.

In my opinion, the new site adjacent to South Street Extension is NOT appropriate for a 28-acre solar array. When you drive, run or bike around the area, the landscape takes your breath away. Broad fields stretch to the horizon, dotted with trees and marsh grasses glowing gold under the low sun of a November afternoon. This working agricultural landscape is a nearly 200

year-old historic relic; too large to fit in the Sheldon Museum alongside the linens and rocking chairs, but worthy of preservation nonetheless. Until now these lands have been preserved due to Middlebury College’s remarkable legacy of land stewardship, which began with the vision of Joseph Battell. Battell understood the aesthetic value of landscapes and was not afraid to put real money behind them as he amassed and protected land in the late 1800s before donating vast tracts to the college. He famously said: “Some folks pay \$10,000 for a painting and hang it on the wall where their friends can see it, while I buy a whole mountain for that much money and it is hung up by nature where everybody can see it and it is infinitely more handsome than any picture ever painted.” A desire to preserve beautiful landscapes can be more than NIMBYism; instead,

it is a recognition that natural aesthetic beauty has value and is worth preserving.

I thus urge the college and town to use their considerable leverage and persuade Encore renewables to build either on the originally proposed site, or a comparably shielded one. They should ask Encore for a detailed financial analysis showing the difference in cost between the two sites. Even a cost well into the six figures would be a relatively small amount of money when amortized over the minimum 25-year lifespan of this multi-million dollar solar array. Although the 28 acres in question could theoretically be returned to pasture in 25 years after the first set of solar panels wears out, it seems more likely that we are constructing a permanent power station that will take one more slice of aesthetic beauty away from our children and grandchildren. With-

out fighting for responsible land planning, the beautiful landscape that we all value will evolve slowly towards the sprawling suburban development that characterizes other parts of the state and country. Instead, let us accept the extra cost to do this project right and create a legacy (and landscape!) we can be proud of. I am guessing Joseph Battell would consider it money well spent.

letter to the editor

Will Amidon is a geology professor at Middlebury.

Hey, be nice to the tabling person please

Notes from the desk

Rain Ji is a member of the class of 2023 and a layout editor for The Campus.

They say don’t let rejection get to you because you will face a lot more rejections than acceptances in life. That was true during my college application process, but that was even more true when I sat at the Atwater, Ross and Proctor dining halls a few weeks ago, asking people to take the Zeitgeist for The Campus. In this case, “rejection” didn’t mean polite “no”s, or “sorry I’m in a rush”s; instead, it meant indifferent and churlish responses ranging from rolled-eyes, harsh “I don’t care at all”s, to robbery of all available chocolate and sweets on the table without any acknowledgement of me or my partner. These rejections were not a rejection of the survey, but rather a rejection of my presence, of me.

What’s worse about these rejections is that, unlike my college application decisions, they did not come with statements like “after careful consideration,” “we regret to inform you,” or “we wish you the best,” nor did they come from complete strangers. These rejections came from people I share classes with, people that live down the hall; people that I share this campus with. As a first-year, it is particularly anxiety-inducing to sit (sometimes alone) and face crowds of people. Had I just sat quietly, I would have expected to be ignored. But I was actively approaching people, as respectfully as I possibly could — and yet I was still subjected to the ridicule which comes from being

treated with ignorance, contempt and apathy.

People are busy. Especially on this campus. Even as a first-year, I recognize the amount of effort it takes to keep up with academics, work, athletics and other commit-

ments at Middlebury. Not everyone has time for a five-minute survey, and I respect that. It sure can be annoying to be stopped by a random person and asked, “Have you taken

the all-student survey sent out by The Campus?” at lunch time. Still, the simplest and best thing to do if you are indeed in a rush is to say “Sorry, I’m busy” and go on about your day. I would not and will never be offended by how busy you are,

believe they have more important tasks to complete. Perhaps you do not have time to answer a survey, but everyone has the time to acknowledge someone’s existence. Saying “Sorry, I’ve got to run” takes less than three seconds. And those

about their projects, I pretend to not notice and go about my day, comforting myself that my behavior is justified because I had to go to class. I learned my lesson the hard way, as with tabling for The Campus survey I was subjected to the same attitude of indifference and carelessness.

This type of indifferent attitude is not just adopted towards people who promote various kinds of activities by tabling outside of dining halls. In fact, it is a lot more prevalent than we might think. While rushing about our day, we slam the door on the person right behind us, or we don’t acknowledge the dining hall staff when they greet us. We do many other discourteous things in the name of being busy, while, in reality, we still have the time to at least show basic decency through treating those that approach us with good intentions and respect.

Perhaps you will never have to promote something, ask someone for a favor, or otherwise need help. If that’s the case, then I congratulate you on your incredible ability to accomplish everything by yourself (though you should still consider treating others humanely). And just in case you have the slightest chance of someday needing someone’s assistance, then I advise you to avoid displays of disregard, disrespect and disdain, especially to your peers.

Middlebury is a small place and one that I, like many others, take pride in. When we all do our best, it is a supportive and loving community, filled with talented, diverse and amazing people. Let’s re-examine how we treat others who are simply trying to help build that community. Let’s treat each other with civility and courtesy.



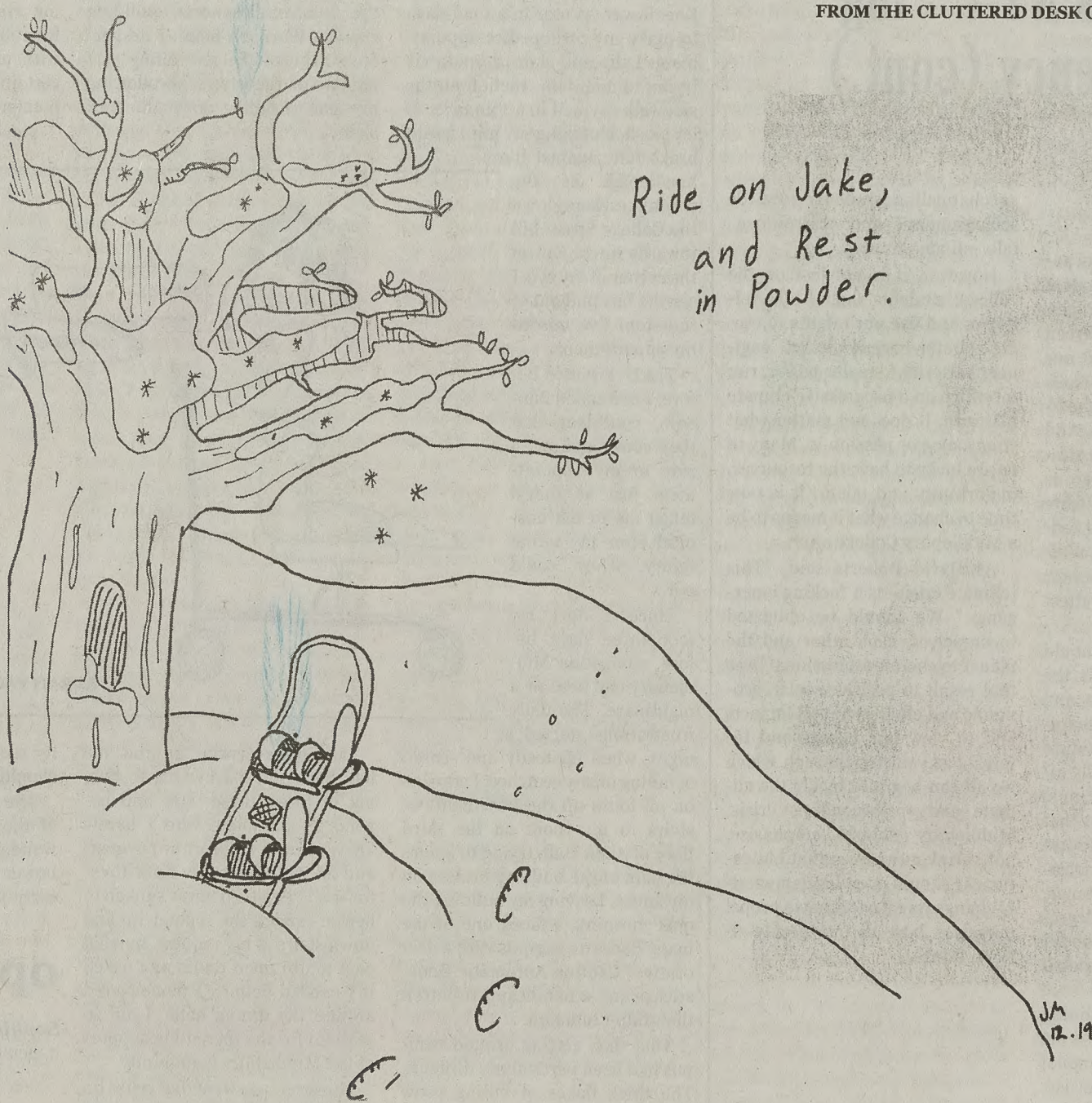
SARAH FAGAN

or if you don’t want to take a survey. That is totally understandable. But I was deeply offended by the blatant indifference and disrespect that people self-justify because they

three seconds make someone feel seen and respected.

I have made this mistake myself. Often, when I am asked by someone outside of Ross if I’d like to learn

FROM THE CLUTTERED DESK OF JENNY MOSS



MIDD KIDS OF INSTAGRAM: CREATING AN ONLINE COMMUNITY

By SOPHIE HILAND
Contributing Writer

Perhaps you follow @MiddleburyCollege on Instagram where you're sure to find photos and videos of our picturesque campus in the fall, winter, spring and summer as well as photos of teams and the trophies they win and appreciation for community members who have passed. Or maybe you follow @MiddAthletics which reposts pictures of Middlebury athletes who have received honors such as NESCAC Player of the Week and NCAA All American titles. At the same time, student organizations such as MiddSafe and the SGA maintain accounts that spread the word about their work.

Alongside these more official accounts is its own niche of student-run microblogs. Whether it be in the dining hall or on the way to class, students are working to document the daily joys and personal stories of their peers through each their own styles of images and captions.

Take @MeetMidd, for example.

Before I had even applied to Middlebury, I stumbled on a friend's MeetMidd feature, which she had reposted on Instagram. I started to scroll through the account's posts, of which there are currently 772. The stories caught my attention as they ranged in vulnerability, humor, style and topic, but all were told thoughtfully and helped me get a much better sense of what my classmates would be like if I were to go to Middlebury.

John Schurer '21 started the account shortly after arriving at Middlebury in the fall of 2017. In reflection on his original intentions for the account, Schurer explains that the account came out of an "an effort to expand our circles and unite our community" and that he "wanted to create a way for us to forge authentic, meaningful relationships with others."

"I thought that if each of us shared a piece of who we are, it could be the catalyst that would lead to these kinds of relationships," Schurer said. He says that Middlebury students often fall into natural circles based on academic interests, extracurricular activities, jobs and many other factors that to some extent keep us from getting to know many of our classmates.

While other Midd Instagram accounts have very different goals, they nonetheless share as-

pects of life as a Middlebury student that may not make their way into more formal Instagram accounts or get mentioned during admissions tours.

One such account is @RealHumansofProc, started by Ella Nassi '22.5 and Cecilia Needham '22.5, two devout Proctor-Dining Hall fans who noticed that meal after meal, their fellow Proc-goers were sitting down to eat creative meals they started calling "conProctions" and "ProcCreations".

What's so special about making a meal out of food from the salad bar, hot meal section and alternate protein section? Needham explained that this individualized approach helps students feel more connected to the food they eat, and thus less likely to toss it after a bite or two. Nassi echoed this sentiment. "We love that by featuring students who make out of the ordinary, and often quite quirky 'creations' in Proc, we are giving other students ideas for how to make the food they want to eat, thus decreasing food waste," she said.

"This account has brought me so much joy," Nassi said. "It opens people up to the possibility of getting excited about the mundane because it sparks enthusiasm for meals, which are so much more than just a time to refuel, but an opportunity to get to know your peers, to eat food that is both healthy and delicious and take a break from our busy lives here at school."

Looking for another account that celebrates daily joys? Look no further than @MiddFits, an account founded by Laz Galvez '23 as a way to recognize and document fashion on campus. Galvez, a New York native, grew up surrounded by street style and has always had a keen awareness of the many rules which governed getting dressed growing up. Galvez explained that running the account has helped him connect with other students and he hopes it helps inspire students to "pop off" when it comes to their outfits. "Here, I feel like I can take more risks," Galvez said, before adding that he hopes the account will help others find the same confidence through fashion as he does.

There you have it — a non-exhaustive lowdown on Middlebury-based Instagram accounts. If you're ever looking to procrastinate on that final paper and find yourself short on content to browse, you know where to go.



COURTESY PHOTO/INSTAGRAM
A Proc pizza bagel made with marinara sauce, pesto, cheese, grilled onions, mushrooms and hot sauce.



COURTESY PHOTO/INSTAGRAM
MiddFits' subjects turn campus sidewalks into catwalks.

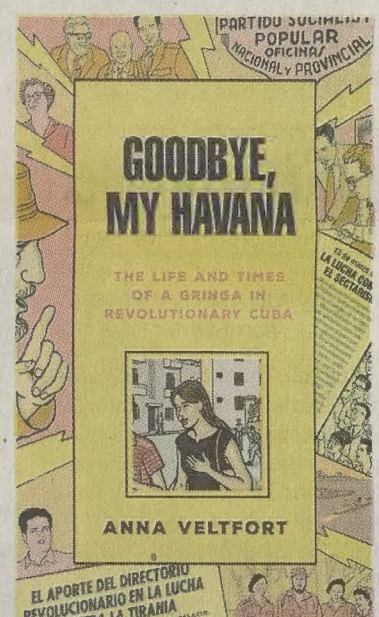
The Librarian Is In

By KATRINA SPENCER
Guest Columnist

If you're interested in Fidel Castro's Cuba of the 1960s, this graphic memoir is the work for you. It covers an era and a culture in which some communist believers willfully exiled themselves to the Caribbean isle to pursue this political ideology. The author is Anna Velfort and her parents were two of these people who became expatriates there.

Anna's fair complexion causes her to stand out among the Cubans and she is subject to sexual harassment. These verbal assaults are injurious and disorienting as she maps out her own queer identity in a place and during a time where being a "tortillera" (a word for "lesbian") was treated punitively. Velfort participates in government-sponsored labor camps and pursues studies at the University of Havana where she encounters other students from the LGBT community who must live their lives clandestinely. With photographs and other documents from the era accompanying the narrative, readers get a real sense of the times, the political tensions and the socioeconomic scarcity created by rations and quotas. The text can be a bit heavy for a graphic work, but the educational opportunity is nonetheless rich.

For more about the figures that shaped Cuba, see Walter Salles' film "The Motorcycle Diaries" that covers Che Guevara's life. For another graphic memoir on navigating queer identity, see "My Lesbian Experience with Loneliness" by Kabi Nagata.



COURTESY PHOTO/REDWOOD PRESS



COURTESY PHOTO/INSTAGRAM
MeetMidd is now featuring staff members, such as Kailee Brickner-McDonald, who works at the Center for Community Engagement.

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A plague of power dynamics: “One Flea Spare”

By RAIN JI
Layout Editor

What happens when an epidemic challenges traditional societal structure? “One Flea Spare,” which ran each night from Nov. 21 to Nov. 23 at Wright Memorial Theatre, explored precisely that.

Written by Naomi Wallace, the play “One Flea Spare” is set in London during The Great Plague of 1665. Morse (Emily Ma ’21), the 12-year-old daughter of a servant, and Bunce (Will Koch ’21), a transient sailor, sneak into the wealthy household of Darcy (Katie Marshall ’21) and William Snelgrave (local actor Gary Smith). As the house becomes quarantined, the four are forced to live together in the same space, guarded by Kabe (James Peacock ’21), who occasionally delivers news and supplies to the bunch. From there, the rigid class divisions, traditional power dynamics and normative gender relations that separate them quickly fall apart.

Wallace’s poetic language was a challenging element of the play’s production, yet actors did a marvelous job unfolding their characters in engaging and convincing ways. The success can be attributed to the conscientious effort actors put into each character and the astounding collaboration between the cast and Director and Associate Professor of Theatre Claudio Medeiros ’90. In a play with only a few characters, each one must add a level of complexity to tell a cogent story.

The character of Darcy solicited much sympathy from the audience. Dressed up meticulously in a multilayered dress with her neck and hands perfectly covered, Darcy appears initially to simply be an upper-class woman with maternal tendencies, yet as the story develops, the audience slowly finds out about the trauma that she has experienced. “Darcy is curious, youthful, and intelligent. To me, Darcy’s scars and trauma are what make her so beautiful and interesting as a character. That’s

why it’s so heartbreaking when she talks about her life before the fire and what it felt like to actually be loved,” Marshall said.

In order to best play this character, whose life differed significantly from Marshall’s, she tried her best to “find linkages between our lives and then add in the layers of age and trauma.” In addition, to best resemble the character with historical accuracy, she “developed specific physical vocabulary for the ways that she would carry herself on stage and react to her surroundings.” Marshall portrayed Darcy, who possesses intense sexual desires hidden under her appropriate facade, exceptionally well.

Gary Smith passionately played the role of William Snelgrave. The character’s arrogance and pretentiousness conveyed such overwhelming condescendence that it was at times repulsive. Medeiros was thrilled that a professional actor joined the cast, and he commended the way Smith carried himself during rehearsals. “[Smith] modeled in a very quiet, unassuming and unobtrusive way,” Medeiros said. The character left people wondering what could possibly be beneath a self-proclaimed righteous facade.

The play began and ended with Morse. Within seconds of her ap-

pearance on stage, the audience’s attention was tightly gripped by her monologue. Her role, according to Ma, is “the driving force in upending power dynamics throughout the play, symbolizing the flea during the time of the plague.” Morse is no easy character to take on, and the significant age and intellectual gap between

a dynamic character posed its difficulties for Koch. “One of the challenging parts about working through this character has been his intimacy with death, and finding the humor and the joy in the character despite the hardship that he’s endured up to this point in his life,” Koch said. “It’s something that’s not immediately evident

ulated the professionalism and dedication student actors showed towards the play. “It always felt to me as if I was dealing with a company of professional actors,” he said.

Reciprocally, cast members appreciated the relationships they developed with Medeiros. “Claudio has been really good about giving us agency during this process at finding out what the language means, while also engaging us in incredibly thought provoking discussions to find the answers,” Koch said.

What makes the play shockingly relevant is its political subtext. As an American playwright, Wallace purposely sets the play in a foreign place and time to allow detached observances and reflections. The play was originally inspired partly by the 1992 Los Angeles riots yet parallels are still clear today.

“When considering how the play resonates today, we might think of the widening gap between the rich and the poor in the United States of America, or the various uprisings happening around the world – whether against police brutality, totalitarianism, or the ravages of neoliberal capitalism,” Medeiros said. “I hope Wallace’s vision is a warning, not just a dream.”

Both Koch and Ma spoke to the significance of the play in today’s world. “The student social climate at Middlebury tackles these issues all the time,” Koch said, “and I think people who care about fighting social inequality and injustice will see this play as a relevant commentary on what’s going right now.”

Ma echoed this sentiment, saying that “I think this show confronts power structures that we often accept as irrevocable truths and how previously oppressed people behave when they are suddenly thrust into positions of power.”

After the show, audience members spoke highly of the play.

“What a weird show,” Will Napier ’23 said. “I loved it!”



COURTESY PHOTO/GRIFFIN BIRNEY
Olivia Blackmer ’23 described the play as “visceral and intoxicating.”

Morse and Ma made the character tricky. “Although Morse has gone through more than most have in a lifetime, she sees the world through a child’s eyes,” Ma said. “Once I approached the play through her perspective, the poetic language slowly made sense and the difficult emotional content sang even clearer.”

Bunce was an exciting character to say the least. In the beginning, he was made an interim servant by the Snelgraves. But after getting a taste of what an upper-class gentleman has – socks, shoes and cane – it became impossible for Bunce to return complacently to his place on the social ladder. Playing such

Morse’s toe and kissed her feet, audiences gasped audibly. Kabe has a mildly ribald sense of humor that felt simple and authentic. The exchanges between Kabe and Morse highlight volatile gender relations through acts of seduction. Peacock’s way of calling out of the death tolls was shockingly casual, brilliantly casting him as an indecent character – yet what is decency in a time of widespread epidemic?

Tackling the play’s difficult poetic language required endless patience and hard work from the actors and Medeiros, and fostered a close relationship among the cast and director. Medeiros congrat-

Stonewall and Middlebury: Exhibits on queer activism

By ARIADNE WILL
Local Editor

This fall, Special Collections curated an exhibit commemorating the 1969 Stonewall riots. The exhibit, on display in the Library Atrium, is titled “Before and After Stonewall: Queer Stories Throughout American History” and was curated by Suria Vanra-

the Special Collections team hired Macfarlane, Shephard and Vanrajah to curate the exhibits.

“I’ve always been very interested in history – I went to an American history high school – and am from New York City, so I recognized how important the Stonewall Riots were to my city, the LGBTQ community

has chosen to focus on. “I would consider each of these authors activists in their own right, whether or not they saw themselves that way, because their work helped make queer stories public and brought them to the attention of the American public,” she said. “By normalizing LGBTQ stories, these authors helped to normalize LGBTQ individuals and their experiences.”

While the atrium exhibit focuses on literature written by authors who identify as members of the LGBTQ community, the exhibit on the lower level is centered around past Campus articles detailing events occurring within Middlebury’s own LGBTQ sphere. “[Halle] and I spent about two days going through bound versions of The Campus, looking for things that might pop out – [words like] gay, queer – and compiling them and noting them,” Macfarlane said.

Watson, who had the idea for the exhibit, said that he had hoped to survey the five decades since Stonewall, but said that he, Macfarlane and Shephard decided instead to focus on the first three decades of the time period. One reason behind this decision was space. “Once 2000 came around, there was much more student activity and the student groups were much more high profile,” Watson said. “It would have been really difficult to fit those next 20 years in because there would have been so much.”

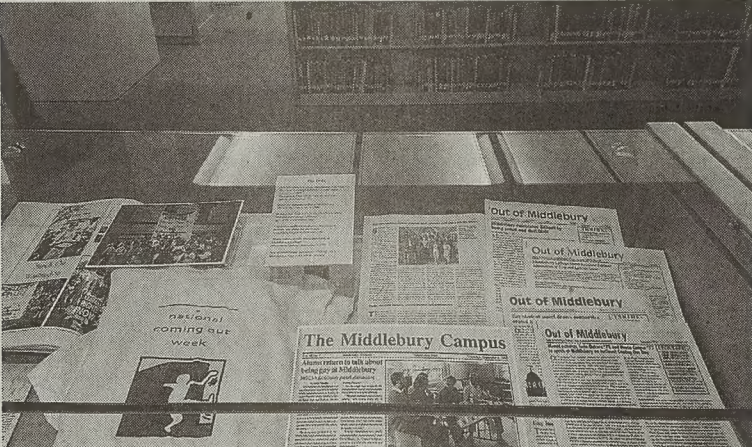
Watson also said that he hoped students would use the exhibit to learn more about the efforts that laid the groundwork for LGBTQ visibility on campus. “Pre-1970, there’s no open history of queer people at Middlebury,” he said. “I think that’s an interesting thing for people to realize, especially current students, who can say, ‘oh, these people are my parents’ age, and there were no [visibly] queer people before them.”

This observation was something Macfarlane and Shephard became aware of as they worked on the exhibit. “At first it was really hard to find [Campus] articles,” Shephard said. “The gay student groups were really kept under wraps.”

The underwhelming presence of LGBTQ visibility was something

Watson also acknowledged this historical absence and lack of visibility. “When you’re doing research into underrepresented groups, they’re called that because they’re underrepresented,” he said. “In the archives, we have very little related to LGBTQ people.”

This underrepresentation was



APRIL QIAN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

One of the exhibits used old Campus articles from Special Collections to highlight queer activism at the college.

ry” and was curated by Suria Vanrajah ’22. The exhibit is partnered with a display on the Library Lower Level titled “Middlebury College Coming Out: A Foundation for Queer Activism,” which was curated by Halle Shephard ’22, Reid Macfarlane ’21 and Joseph Watson, Preservation Manager for Special Collections.

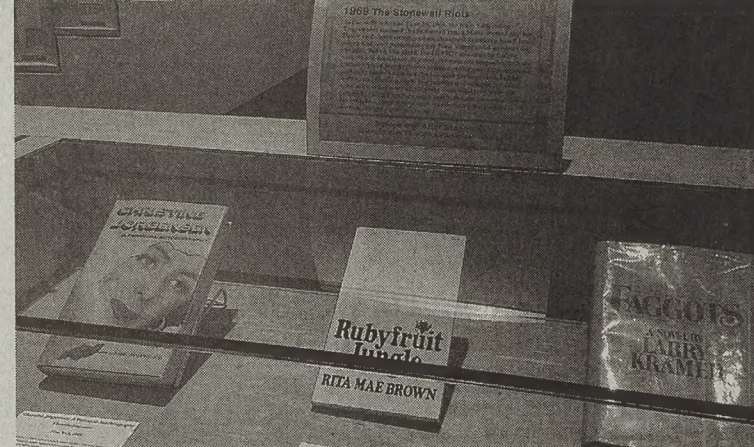
The exhibits were the ideas of Watson and Rebekah Irwin, Special Collections’ director and curator. Watson and Irwin had long wanted to do something to mark the 50th anniversary of Stonewall, Watson said, so he proposed the downstairs archives exhibit, while Irwin had the idea for the atrium literature exhibit.

With the help of the Museum-Works internship, a program that connects current students with the college’s collections and museum,

and our country,” Vanrajah said. “I wanted to be a part of the exhibit, and I was lucky enough that Joseph and Rebekah took a chance on me.”

Vanrajah said that she hopes her exhibit points out ripples made by events like Stonewall. As curator, she said she wanted viewers to draw their own conclusions about the impact of the riots on queer literature and history. “I felt that my role as a curator was not to try to create a narrative about the Stonewall Riots but rather to create a context through which anyone who sees the exhibit can reflect on the impact [of Stonewall] and understand it in their own way,” she said.

Beyond Stonewall, however, Vanrajah says her display is a nod to the activist aspects of the authors she



APRIL QIAN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The other exhibit focused on the relationship between queer literature and the Stonewall riots.

Macfarlane also noticed. “I think that for a long time, queer people on this campus didn’t feel comfortable in their own visibility,” he said. “I think in the ’70s and ’80s there wasn’t a lot of queer visibility on campus. There weren’t a lot of people in organizations or starting initiatives to engage a discourse about the queer population on campus. You saw people attempt to do that, and then people wouldn’t show up to meetings.”

Shephard, too, noticed attempts made by students to establish an LGBTQ community on campus. “One of the first [student LGBTQ] groups was Gay Students at Middlebury,” she said. “Eventually the membership dwindled off, and then people just didn’t know where to go. It was sad to see it disappear.”

something Vanrajah was thinking about in terms of a broader literary tradition. “Queer stories are rarely told and many people never learned about Stonewall in their history classes, or never read seminal queer works because of the stigma surrounding many of them,” she said, adding that she hopes to address this gap in narrative with her exhibit. “While this exhibit is by no means a comprehensive analysis or display of queer history and literature, I see it as a way to introduce a general audience to these topics,” she said. “If everyone who looked at the exhibit walked away with an appreciation for the activists at Stonewall and the writers that came before and after them, I would be really proud.”

DON'T MISS THIS

Ecology and Conservation in a Variable and Uncertain World

Environmental variability can be on daily or decadal time scales. These various forms of environmental variability shape ecosystems and the human communities that depend on them. Understanding this variability and managing in the face of uncertainty is critical for ecosystem management. These ideas will be addressed in the context of the management of ecosystems, including coral reef fisheries.

Thursday 12/5, 4:30 p.m., Franklin Environmental Center, The Orchard-Hillcrest 103

Movement and Media showing

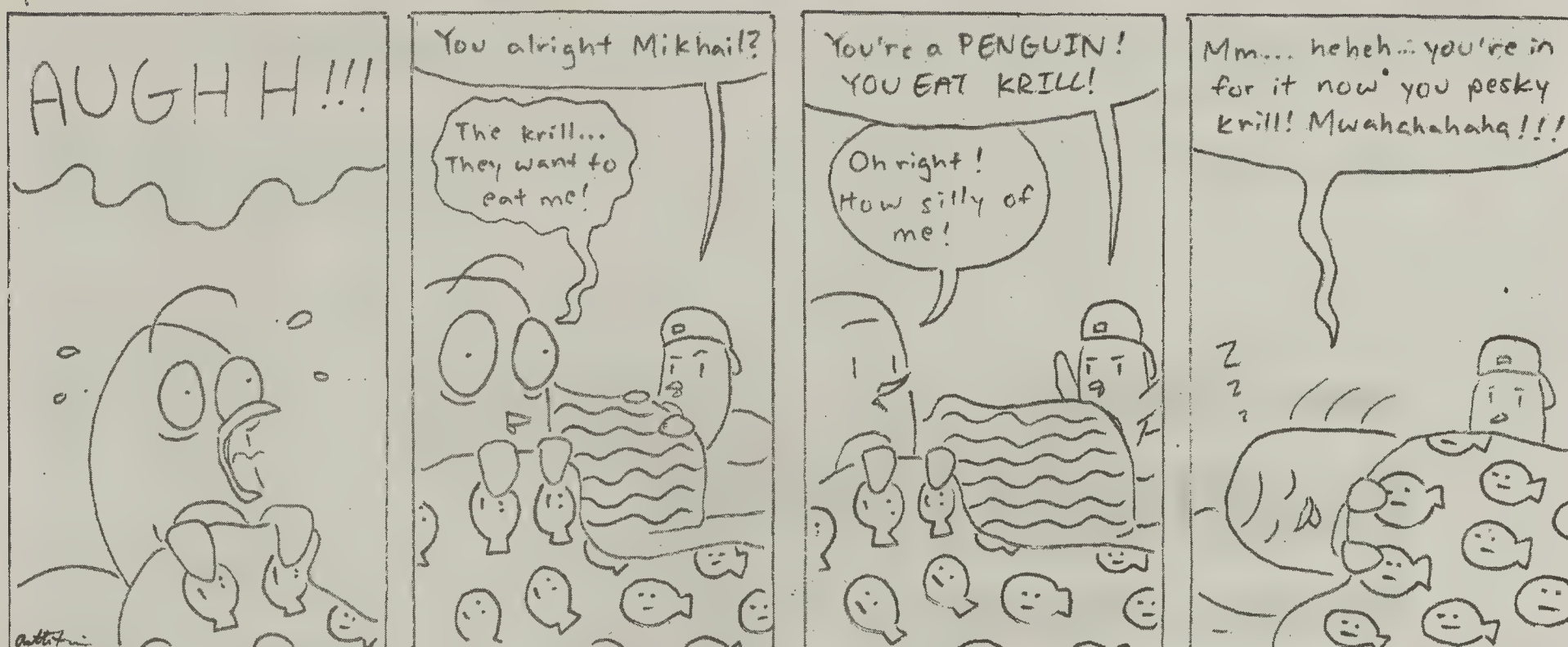
Under the guidance of Artist in Residence Tori Lawrence, students have been using analog and digital media to create and integrate with their movement compositions.

Friday 12/6, 3 p.m. Mahaney Arts Center, Dance Theatre

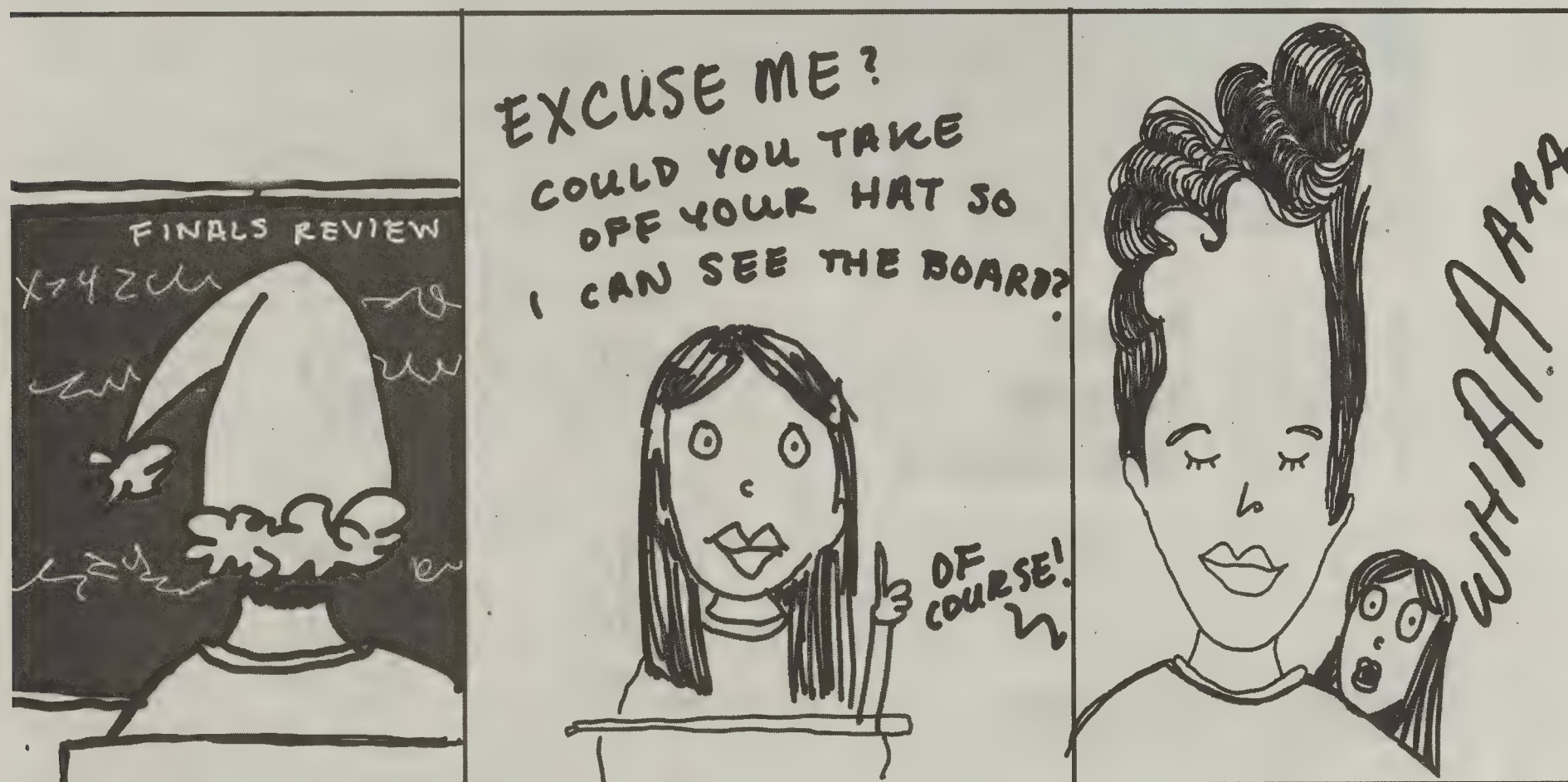
MuseumLab

For this experiment in interdisciplinary learning, professors from across Middlebury’s curriculum have selected a diverse array of pieces from the museum’s collection. Visitors are invited to observe the reactions sparked when our “teaching laboratory” displays art supporting courses in religion, neuroscience, gender studies, political science, environmental studies, art history, biochemistry, and more.

Sunday 12/1-8 Middlebury College Museum of Art, Overbrook Gallery



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Middlebury College Apply by Dec. 6th!

Be among the most diverse, remarkable leaders of your generation. By joining Teach For America, you will join a powerful network of over 60,000 changemakers shaping the political, economic, and social future of our country. As a corps member, you'll leverage your unique talents to grow your impact while living your most deeply held values. Learn more and apply to the 2020 corps by Wednesday, December 6. All majors accepted. Full salary and benefits.

160 Panthers have joined Teach For America

"[TFA] influenced my 20 year career trajectory, from getting an MPP to running for office, all because I'm highly motivated to address the inequities my students, and so many hundreds of students were exposed to."

Allison Bajracharya
Midd '00, Principal at AGB Consulting

WHERE TFA Midd ALUMNI ARE CURRENTLY WORKING

- 81 Working in Prek-12
- 17 Fulltime grad students
- 14 Education non-profits
- 9 Working in health & medicine
- 9 Working in law/legal services
- 3 Working in policy & politics

LIFELONG IMPACT

205
Elected Officials

52
Forbe's 30 under 30 List

699
Policy, Advocacy and Organizing Leaders

1,887
School and Systems Leaders

3.54
Average GPA of Midd corps member

TOP THREE MAJORS

- 1 Political Science
- 2 English
- 3 Psychology

"I chose to do TFA because I wanted to leverage my education to create positive change. TFA has connected me with an amazing group of students, challenged me to put theory into practice, shown me what community means, and confirmed my lifelong commitment to educational justice."

Angie Walker
Midd '16, Science Department Head / Chemistry and Physics Teacher at Kirtland Central High School

Center for Community Engagement

Apply to be a College Access Mentor for High School Students at MUHS

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 6 at 11:59 p.m.

MiddCAM is a one-on-one mentorship program that pairs Middlebury College student mentors with local high school juniors who are primarily first generation and/or low-income college applicants. Mentors guide their mentees through the college process by helping them coordinate standardized testing and coming up with a college list, editing essays and personal statements and by providing information about the college experience. Mentors are provided with training and support by the group's administrators, the Center for Community Engagement and the Middlebury Union High School college counseling staff. We hope to share our experiences and offer support to the students in our local community during this uncertain and stressful time in their lives. Please note: Mentors must be available for one academic year (which means being on campus for spring, fall, and J-Term following being matched). If you are interested in applying, the MiddCAM mentor application go-link is go/middcamapp2019. The go-link will automatically direct you to a Google Doc. You are welcome to download the document as a Word document, fill that out electronically and send it to edickerson@middlebury.edu or cam@middlebury.edu. You may also print out the form and return it to the Center for Community Engagement. Contact cam@middlebury.edu with questions.

Listen to Live Music at the Bevco and Alpaca Concert

Date: Friday, Dec. 6 at 8:45 p.m.

Location: Coltrane Lounge

This concert is presented by MAlt Costa Rica: Exploring Environmental Conservation Efforts in Indigenous Lands. Twelve Middlebury students will be traveling to Costa Rica over February break as part of a Middlebury Alternative Break (MAlt) trip. This trip seeks to explore environmental conservation in indigenous lands and the relationship of this community with the environment. They will be partnering with Diwo Ambiental in their project "Bosque para Nacer Agua", which aims to increase current forest cover in Boruca Pueblo in order to protect the community's source of water. Help them fundraise for their February break trip by coming to the Bevco and Alpaca concert. Tickets are \$6. Hot beverages will also be served for a donation of \$2. This fundraiser does not benefit Middlebury College. Donations are not tax deductible.

John Graham Sleep Out at the Falls for Homelessness Awareness

Deadline: Saturday, Dec. 7 from 4 p.m. to morning

Every year, John Graham Housing and Services organize a Sleepout by the Falls to raise awareness about the prevalence of homelessness and bring attention to the privilege of those with homes and properties. Join Middlebury community members at the Candlelight Vigil on the Middlebury Green to build awareness. We'll gather on December 7th at 4 p.m. You may bring a bag of food, a box of diapers, toiletries, hygiene products, cleaning supplies, or a new quilt or set of sheets for a family moving into a home. Sleep Out by the Otter Creek Falls to raise support for homeless neighbors. We'll pitch our tents or makeshift shelters at the Marble Works and spend just one night enduring the cold, anxiety and uncertainty that some of our neighbors live with each day. Individuals or teams from schools, employers, churches and civic organizations are most welcome! Sponsor an individual or team with a generous donation to the shelter. Every dollar raised goes directly to families and individuals to help with food, shelter, mental health counseling, supportive housing, down payments, utility assistance or whatever it takes to transition to stable housing. We thank you for your support and hope to see you there.

Participate in the ACTR Focus Group Meeting

Date: Friday, Dec. 6 at 10:30 a.m.

The purpose is to design a brand for Tri-Valley Transit which is the merged name of ACTR of Addison County and Stagecoach of Orange and Northern Windsor Counties. We have been operating under pre-merger local branding for the past couple of years and are ready to take the leap! But we need community feedback, especially from young riders. The new branding will go on our buses and publications to make us stand out as an attractive transportation mode. The process will be guided by local design house Image Farm and will be engaging and interesting. For any questions, please contact Mary-Claire Crogan at mary@trivalleytransit.org.

Volunteer at the International Festival 2019

Date: Various

In 2019, the Vermont Performing Arts League will proudly present its 27th Vermont International Festival, an annual celebration of cultures from around the world, bringing international crafts, foods, music and dance to our doorstep at the Champlain Valley Exposition, Rt. 15, Essex Junction, VT. This December, AmeriCorps VISTA will have a booth at International Festival 2019 - taking place at the Champlain Valley Expo.

We will offer information on refugee resettlement in our community, interactive creative activities for children and adults and clients' artwork on display for viewing and purchasing. We will need volunteers to be at our booth during the following time frames. Please let Molly Goodspeed know if you are available and would like to join us at this exciting event by emailing americorps@uscrvt.org.

Slots available:

Friday, December 6: 9 a.m.-11 a.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 1 p.m.-3 p.m. and 5 p.m.-8 p.m.

Saturday, December 7: 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 12 p.m.-2 p.m., 2 p.m.-4 p.m. and 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, December 8: 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 12 p.m.-2 p.m., 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. and 4 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.

Center for Careers and Internships

See these opportunities and more at go/handshake.

Center for Strategic and International Studies

Location: Washington, D.C.

Term: Starts January 2020

Deadline: Dec. 6

Great for a Feb graduate, the CSIS Middle East Program seeks highly motivated candidates for a full-time, paid, five-month spring internship in a dynamic and fast-paced environment beginning in January 2020. The Middle East Program's analysis focuses on the drivers of change in the region. It is currently undertaking work on shifting social, political and economic dynamics in the Gulf countries; political, economic and security trends in the Maghreb; religious policies and practices in the Maghreb; and evolving relations between the Middle East and other world regions.

Capital Group

Location: Los Angeles, C.A., London, U.K.

Term: Summer

Deadline: Dec. 15

The CAP Summer Program is a highly selective internship program at one of the world's leading investment management firms. The CAP summer offers the opportunity to explore careers in investment management through a meaningful assignment and a group project with a final presentation to associates and managers. Interns will have full access to senior leaders across different departments and roles and personalized career coaching, professional development and customized training.

Uncommon Schools

Location: Various

Term: Summer

Deadline: Dec. 26

The Summer Teaching Fellowship (STF) is a paid 7-10 week teacher preparation program designed for rising college seniors who are committed to pursuing a career in education. Fellows gain the experience and support necessary to develop, grow and enhance their instructional skills. After spending time observing, learning and leading instruction, many Fellows receive and accept full-time offers to teach at Uncommon upon graduation.

Proctor and Gamble

Location: Cincinnati, O.H.

Term: Summer

Deadline: Dec. 26

Are you energized by using integrative thinking to solve tough business problems, using diverse sources of knowledge from analytics to psychology? If so, then a role in the Consumer & Market Knowledge (CMK) organization is for you! We use state of the art analytics tools to dig deep in the data, identifying key business drivers and assessing the impact of investments like advertising and in store promotions and to understand consumers, markets and retailers. In CMK, we combine analytics and insights to directly influence business strategy, product design, pricing, media investments, retail, go-to-market strategy ... and much more!

Hudson River Trading

Location: New York, N.Y.

Term: Summer

Deadline: Dec. 31

Check out this alumni-referred opportunity for sophomores (rising juniors). The Finance & Strategy team is responsible for financial planning & analysis, firm strategy, corporate development and special projects. An ideal candidate should have an interest in financial technology, capital markets, financial analysis and strategy. As a summer intern, you will get the opportunity to work across various functional areas.

Colorado Health Institute with CLIMB Internships

Location: Denver, Colo.

Term: Summer

Deadline: Jan. 29 but hiring on rolling basis

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) is a non-profit, non-partisan health policy research group. CHI provides evidence-based data and information to inform policy, advance health, promote collaboration and support better access to care for all Coloradans. The health policy intern will assist in policy analysis; assist in producing policy briefs, white papers, blogs, primers, presentations and fact sheets; and support analysts and directors. CLIMB Internships are 10-week undergraduate summer internships in Denver, Colorado, designed exclusively for Middlebury, Yale, Denison, Northwestern, Wesleyan, Harvard, MIT and Stanford students. Pay is generally a minimum of \$4,600 for the summer.

Massachusetts General Hospital

Location: Charlestown, Ma.

Term: Full-time Job

Deadline: Feb. 28

The Harvard Aging Brain Study is seeking a full-time Data Coordinator for a neuroimaging research program at Massachusetts General Hospital. The group investigates alterations in brain function, structure and molecular pathology in normal aging and Alzheimer's disease. This position joins the data processing and informatics team and would take responsibility for day to day database and data management tasks, running and maintenance of ETL pipelines, running of automated quality assurance tasks and production of bespoke datasets and SQL queries to aid researchers. This role presents a great opportunity for those seeking an entry point into the burgeoning data science field.

Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

Location: Lebanon, N.H.

Term: Full-time job

Deadline: May 1

The Wang lab has an opening for a Research Assistant in the Department of Molecular & Systems Biology at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College. They are looking for individuals with an interest in both basic and translational biomedical research, particularly in cancer epigenetics. A background in biology, biochemistry, genetics, bioinformatics and/or computer science preferred.

FIELD HOCKEY CAPTURES THIRD CONSECUTIVE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

By BENJY RENTON
Local Editor

Snow fell on the morning, but the Middlebury field hockey team was unfazed as it captured its third consecutive national championship — its fourth in five years. This was the second-ranked Panthers' fifth total NCAA Division III championship win, having previously captured the title in 1998, 2015, 2017 and 2018.

The Panthers traveled to the final four for the 11th time in program history after receiving an automatic bid with a NESCAC championship win, securing victories against Babson (2-1) and Kean (4-1) in the regional round. The national semifinal was played on Saturday, Nov. 23, in Manheim, Pa., where Middlebury defeated the Salisbury Sea Gulls 1-0. Off an assist from Erin Nicholas '21, Katie George '23 fired the ball inside the right post with 6:27 left in the third quarter. The defensive squad was able to hold off Salisbury without a shot until 7:51 remained in regulation. Middlebury took advantage on both shots (13) and penalty corners (six).

The Panthers faced off against the Franklin & Marshall Diplomats, who advanced to the championship match for the first time since 1981 after scoring a 3-1 victory against Johns Hopkins.

After a delayed start time due to snow earlier in the morning, the game remained scoreless for the first three quarters. With 6:17 left in regulation, Marissa Baker '20 put a low shot in against Franklin & Marshall goalie Christina Seery, off an assist from Isabel Chandler '21. The Diplomats tried to rebound in the last few minutes of the game, earning a penalty corner ending in a blocked shot.

In addition to Baker's game-winning shot, Chandler and Nicholas contributed to the Panthers' nine shots. Grace Harlan '22 spent the entire game in goal, ending with just one save on the game. This was Harlan's ninth shutout in goal, the most for any Middlebury player in a single season.

In a press conference following yesterday's semifinal game, head coach Katharine DeLorenzo praised the team's high-quality defense and extensive preparation. "You could see every minute of preparation out there," she said. "It's just nice to see that your planning was good."

George, the only scorer in the semifinal, gave insight into the team's overarching strategy. "Going into every practice like it's our last one, going to every game like it could be our last one, that's something that our team fully embodies and fully takes ownership [of]," she said in the press conference.

Though half of the team has earned two previous national championships, Olivia Green '20 says that the each year brings a fresh new start. "We are a completely different team," she said. Julia Richards '20 agreed. "We have a mentality where we're in the moment all the time and it's just about that specific play," she said. "We don't really look back to the past or to the future; we just play in the now."

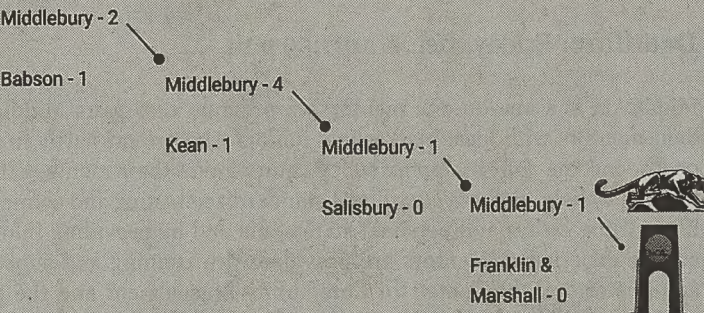
DeLorenzo praised the players' bonds with each other and their commitment to a storied Division III field hockey program. "I think one of the beauties of this team is the buy-in I always have from the players to create things that are so fresh and energetic," she said. "We're not trying to recreate the same season [every year]. To see the growth, the ownership, the polish and the excited, forward-thinking and never-looking-back mentality is a very free disposition for a competitive athlete."

At the conclusion of the weekend, Nicholas was recognized as the tournament's most outstanding player, while Baker, Green and George were each named to the all-tournament team.

The Panthers finished their season with a 21-1 overall record and a total of 68 goals.

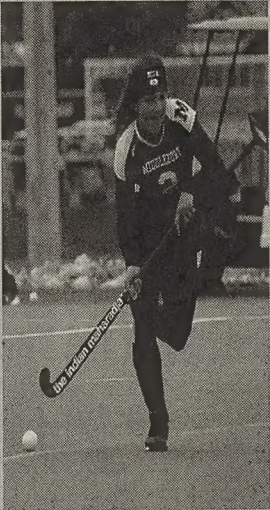
M	1	Middlebury	Franklin & Marshall
		1	Goals 0
		9	Shots 4
		1	Saves 3
		5	Penalty Corners 3
DIPLOMATS	0		

The Road to the Championship



Marissa Baker

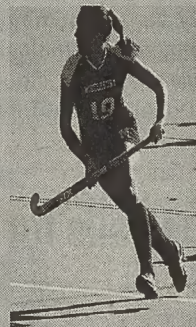
Forward
Class of 2020
Darien, CT



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

After three scoreless quarters, Baker sent a shot into the goal, lifting over a stick and placing the ball in the center of the cage. She also contributed to the Panthers' thrilling 3-2 overtime victory in the NESCAC championship against Tufts. Baker finishes her senior season with eight goals and eight assists.

Stars of the Season



#6 Katie George '23
Goals: 13
Assists: 3



#15 Erin Nicholas '21
Goals: 11
Assists: 7



#2 Marissa Baker '20
Goals: 8
Assists: 8

Season Standings



68 Goals
3.1 Goals per Game
17.1 Shots per Game
0.18 Shot Percentage



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

What are your plans this
SUMMER?

- EARN CREDIT
- EARN MONEY
- GAIN EXPERIENCE

As a Middlebury College undergrad, you can access incredible summer opportunities across the country and around the world.

And be sure to look into the many funding opportunities available.

For a list of summer programs, visit go.middlebury.edu/middsummer.

WINTER SPORTS RECAPS



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Women's hockey tops No. 1 Plattsburgh in Panther/Cardinal Classic

By MAX PADILLA
Photo Editor

Women's hockey remains undefeated as the team enters its third week of the season. The Panthers tied Amherst, 1-1, on Friday, Nov. 22 before shutting out the Mammoths the following day, 2-0. Middlebury repeated the pattern this past weekend during the Panther/Cardinal Classic, tying Adrian 1-1 on Saturday, Nov. 30 and triumphing over top-ranked Plattsburgh State, 2-1, on Sunday, Dec. 1.

"We focus a lot on having a strong

defensive zone no matter what team we play and that was definitely a huge factor in the win this weekend," Sidney Porter '20 said. "We knew it wasn't going to be easy going into it and that we had to work as hard as we could from start to finish which I think set us up for a successful outcome."

The Panthers will face off against Utica this Saturday, Dec. 7 at Kenyon Arena. Things look good for the Panthers as they head into this game, as they've beat the Moose in the last three games the two have played.



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Men's puck successful in NESCAC road trip, falls in PrimeLink Championship

By BLAISE SIEFER
Sports Writer

The Middlebury men's hockey team are quickly gaining momentum this season, winning three of their past four games. The Panthers now boast a 4-2-0 record, good for third in the NESCAC.

Men's hockey swept their first away trip of the season on Friday, Nov. 22 and Saturday, Nov. 23, defeating Tufts, 2-1, and Connecticut College, 5-2. Antoine Belisle '23 netted a goal in each, notching the

first two goals of his collegiate career.

This past weekend, Middlebury headed north to Plattsburgh State, competing in the 22nd annual PrimeLink Great Northern ShootOut. The Panthers started the weekend hot, defeating top-seeded Norwich, 2-1 (OT) in the semi-finals. Entering this matchup, Norwich was one of four teams remaining in Division 3 with a perfect record. Zach Shapiro '22 delivered the winning blow just under two minutes into overtime, slapping in a loose puck

following a scramble in front of the Norwich net. With the win, the Panthers booked their ticket to the tournament final the next day.

Despite their recent success, men's hockey failed to extend their winning streak to five on Sunday, falling to the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, 4-3.

Middlebury will hit the road again this weekend, facing off against Amherst on Friday and Hamilton on Saturday. Games times are scheduled for 7 p.m. and 3 p.m., respectively.

Women's hockey

Saturday, Dec. 7
3:00 p.m.
Utica College

Tuesday, Jan. 7
4:00 p.m.
SUNY Potsdam

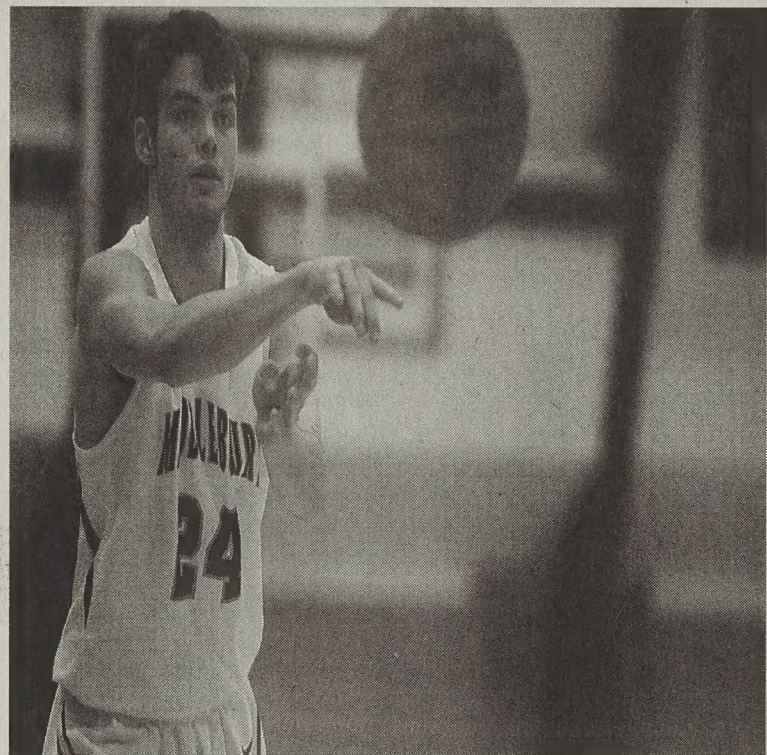
Friday, Jan. 10
4:00 p.m.
at UMass-Boston

Men's basketball

Friday, Dec. 6
5:00 p.m.
New England College

Sunday, Dec. 8
1:00 p.m.
at Stevens

Monday, Dec. 16
3:00 p.m.
Morrisville St.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Fifth-ranked men's basketball routs Endicott, improves to 7-0

By MICHAEL SEGEL
Sports Writer

On Sunday, Dec. 1 men's basketball improved to 7-0 with a 98-78 rout of Endicott, fueled by a huge second half where they outscored their opponents 54-28.

Endicott held a six-point lead at the half, but Midd turned the game into a blowout, with a 25-8 run and a subsequent 11-0 run.

Jack Farrell '21 led the Panthers with a career high 31 points, along with seven rebounds, four assists and four steals. Griffin Kornaker '21, Max Bosco '21, and Tommy Eastman '21 each added 14

points (Eastman also providing 13 rebounds), and Perry DeLorenzo '20 was a perfect four-for-four from beyond the three point line to give himself 12.

The big differences in this one were bench points and defense. Middlebury shot a clean 50% on field goals while holding Endicott to a slim 35.8%. Midd scored 32 points from the bench whereas Endicott had only 18.

It was the end of a 5-0 road trip for Middlebury, who will come home to take on New England College at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 6 before getting back on the road again to face Stevens on Sunday, Dec. 8.



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Women's hoops wins narrowly against Castleton and Cabrini

By RAIN JI
Layout Editor

After winning its first five games of the season, women's basketball has proven itself to continue its success from last season.

"We are playing great team basketball," Captain Kira Waldman '20 said. "I am excited to follow this momentum and continue to show up with energy, effort and enthusiasm."

On Nov. 23, Middlebury defeated the Skidmore Thoroughbreds in a convincing 74-59 victory. The Panthers fought a close battle in the first quarter, having been outscored

by the Thoroughbreds 16-17, but they managed to build a lead by halftime when the score was 33-28. Middlebury then extended its lead in the third quarter to a comfortable 15 points. After the last quarter, the game was settled at 74-59, Middlebury. The win wouldn't have been possible without Betsy Knox '20, who scored a career-high 23 points.

Middlebury then fought hard against Castleton on Nov. 26 and won the game in overtime, 64-60. Captain Maya Davis '20 proved to be an offensive threat, having scored 21 points. The NESCAC weekly release cited her outstanding performance during the game and she was

also selected as the NESCAC Player of the Week.

On Nov. 30, the Panthers battled in another nail-biter when it faced Cabrini. Middlebury was down 58-59 with just 46 seconds remaining in the game, but it managed to regain the lead at 60-59 thanks to a pair of successful free throws by Knox. The Panthers then forced a key turnover and padded their lead to six points with more clutch foul shots by Davis, Knox and Gianna Palli '23.

The team will play Colby-Sawyer on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 2:00 p.m.

Women's basketball

Saturday, Dec. 7
2:00 p.m.
at Colby-Sawyer

Tuesday, Dec. 17
4:00 p.m.
at Nazareth

Tuesday, Dec. 31
2:00 p.m.
Mount Saint Mary

Men's hockey

Saturday, Dec. 6
7:00 p.m.
at Amherst College

Saturday, Dec. 7
3:00 p.m.
at Hamilton College

Friday, Jan. 3
4:00 p.m.
St. Michael's College

The Middlebury Campus

Vol. 108, No. 12

Thursday, January 14, 2009 *

Since 1905



Darcy Mullen

WINTER WONDERLAND

Students eventually made it to campus following a blizzard that delayed many returning for Winter Term. The snow blanketed the area.

Food service model remains unprofitable

By Adam Schaffer
STAFF WRITER

The Grille and 51 Main at the Bridge continue to lose money despite reductions in hours of operation, administration officials acknowledged. The two College-operated venues stand to lose \$340,000 and \$70,000 in fiscal year 2010, respectively.

While 51 Main is expected to reach profitability in coming quarters, more significant changes will be necessary to achieve profitability at the Grille, according to Chief Financial Officer Patrick Norton. Norton cited the delivery model as a serious problem at the Grille.

Because the delivery model is a "labor-intensive" system where all food is made to order, losses are difficult to control. Neither The Grille nor 51 Main has ever been profitable.

The Grille's need for a large staff, coupled with infrequent patronage throughout much of the day, makes for a model that is "unsustainable," Norton wrote in an e-mail.

In order to achieve profitability, changes to the model will be considered. One such change might include a move toward a self-service model. In this situation, made-to-order Dr. Feelgoods would be replaced by pre-made sandwiches, for example.

Norton declined to expand on what changes might occur, but did assure that "students would see very few changes."

Professor of Sociology E. Burke Rochford believes that the College should be operated in a holistic manner, where individual parts are

SEE GRILLE, PAGE 2



Eleanor Horowitz, Photos Editor

51 Main expects to achieve profitability in coming quarters.

this week

Yummy in my tummy

A new chocolate company attempts to satisfy the chocolate cravings of Middlebury, page 5.



Race for a cancer cure

Kevin O'Rourke combats the disease in the lab and through sports, page 11.

Bailas morenas

Belly dancing, Irish step and hula are among the many styles students teach in Winter Term, page 17.



McCardell to depart College

Ex-president leaves rich, 34-year legacy

By Jaime Fuller
NEWS EDITOR

President Emeritus of the College and Professor of History John M. McCardell, Jr. will assume the position of vice chancellor at Sewanee: The University of the South, beginning July 1. Announcing his decision on Jan. 6, McCardell said, "The prospect of serving a unique institution whose history and traditions are so inextricably tied to the American South and to the Episcopal Church, and where the academic attainment of its faculty, students and alumni is so distinguished, was one to which I felt particularly drawn." McCardell has taught at Middlebury for the past 34 years, and was college president for 13 years, from 1992 to 2004.

Sewanee is a 13,000-acre liberal arts university known for being a top producer of Rhodes Scholars and for its publication of The Sewanee Review, the longest running literary magazine in the country. The university has graduate programs in literature, the founder of

which was a Bread Loaf graduate, as well as The School in Theology, an Episcopal seminary. Sewanee has just completed a \$200 million capital campaign, extensive renovations to campus buildings, has an endowment of approximately \$300 million and is, according to McCardell, "in very sound shape."

"Although the two institutions are in many ways different, there are more similarities than one may realize," McCardell said.

McCardell said an old friend approached him in August and asked him if he could recommend anyone for the vice-chancellorship of Sewanee, as part of a national presidential search for the position that began in February 2009. McCardell offered a few possibilities, and was then asked, "What about you?" McCardell responded with a resounding "no," but later said he would "think about it — I'll think about anything."

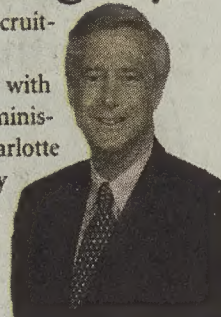
The rest of the story, McCardell said, is "a case study in execu-

tive search recruitment."

He met with Sewanee administrators in Charlotte on the way to his son's wedding in South Carolina in late November, and was compelled to make a final decision about whether to be a candidate as the search reached its denouement at the end of the year. McCardell was still resistant, but found the reasons for his hesitancy seemed quite sparse.

"I've talked to my kids, and they both think it would be a great idea, and my wife thinks it's great," McCardell told the Sewanee administrators. "I keep waiting for someone to tell me not to do it, and nobody has."

After spending a day on the Tennessee campus the Monday after



SEE SEWANEE, PAGE 4



Courtesy of Ben Wessel

Emily Adler '07.5, Ben Wessel '11.5 and Kelly Blynn '07 march from downtown Copenhagen to the Bella Center.

Vt. floods Copenhagen summit

By Kathryn DeSutter
STAFF WRITER

As 2010 begins, student environmental leaders returning from the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen hope to spark federal action on climate change, while those involved in the Solar Decathlon project will work to provide Middlebury students with a tangible model for sustainability.

In December, Rhiya Trivedi '12.5 and Ben Wessel '11.5 attended the Copenhagen conference. During the conference, Wessel and Trivedi joined others from across the globe to encourage world leaders to agree on an international treaty on carbon reduction initiatives through protests, demonstrations, lobbying, and other forms of expression.

While these actions were not enough to push international leaders into reaching a consensus, the students "used every opportunity we could to make our voices heard," wrote Trivedi in an e-mail.

Although many media outlets focused on protests and marches, Trivedi explained that a highlight of her experience was a sit-in that "managed to spur a serious conversation about civil disobedience in relation to climate justice and the climate movement." The sit-in, staged inside the conference center itself, risked arrest and ejection from the conference center for those involved.

Bill McKibben, scholar-in-residence in Environmental Studies and founder of the international environmental group 350.org, called the conference a "stunning couple of weeks."

McKibben praised the students' involvement in the conference, explaining that in Copenhagen, "there seemed to be Midd-kids and former Midd-kids everywhere you turned." Although McKibben was disappointed in the lack of progress made by political leaders, he believes the actions taken by environmentalists

demonstrated that "the movement to fight climate change is now very young [and] led by, more than any college on the planet, colleagues here at Midd."

Trivedi, one of many leaders in the Sunday Night Group, hopes to promote further activism now that she has returned to the United States.

"The time for campus organizing for sustainability has somewhat passed," said Trivedi. In the coming year, Trivedi hopes to work with the student body to bring about action on the federal level. The failure of the conference was partly due to the lack of an established plan to dramatically cut greenhouse gas emissions within the United States which created mistrust from other nations about the United States' true commitment to the climate change movement, she said. Trivedi hopes that the College with its wide geographic ties, can work to contact politicians to "deliver the message o

SEE SOLAR, PAGE 3

As we prepare to embark on a new decade of student journalism, we're looking back at the last one. Here is the front page of the first issue of the decade in 2010.*

#TBT2010

*The header of the issue says it was published in January 2009, but this is incorrect. It is from 2010. Looks like typos are timeless.